

Ship hijackers held in isolation

SYRACUSE, Sicily (R) — The four Palestinian hijackers of the Achille Lauro are being held in isolation in a spotlighted 19th century Italian prison whose director said Sunday. They are in good condition and behaving normally, prison director Carmelo Gulfi said. He would not say if the men were being held together or in separate cells but said he was not aware of any plans to transfer them to another jail. "They are in good condition, they are isolated from other prisoners and their behaviour is normal," Gulfi said in a telephone interview. The men arrived in the sandstone, baroque building on Saturday from Sigonella air base, about 70 km north of Syracuse in eastern Sicily. On Sunday, for the second night, army trucks with spotlights arrived at dusk to illuminate the prison during the night.

FBI to question hijackers, page 2

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab World Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية العربية (الراي)

Hobeika calls for reconciliation

BEIRUT (Petra) — The leader of the right-wing "Lebanese Forces" militia, Eli Hobeika, urged rival Lebanese factions on Sunday to end the state of civil war in Lebanon and expressed the view that achieving peace in Lebanon will boost peace efforts in the Middle East. In a speech he delivered Sunday night, Mr. Hobeika said the "Lebanese Forces" militia wants the Syrian-sponsored reconciliation talks among the militia, the Shi'ite Amal movement led by Nabih Berri and the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) of Walid Jumblatt to succeed. Hobeika said his movement "will not seek goals for itself out of the negotiations" but expects results "which serve the national interests of Lebanon." "We are not going to give concessions but we do not seek any gains either," he said.

Volume 10 Number 2994

AMMAN, MONDAY OCTOBER 14, 1985, MUHARRAM 29, 1406

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Regent receives World Council of Churches delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, conferred on Sunday with a delegation representing the World Council of Churches. Prince Hassan briefed the delegation on the situation in the occupied Arab territories and Israel's arbitrary measures against the Arab population and its drive to Judaize the Holy City of Jerusalem. He said Jordan is determined to preserve Arab legitimate rights in Palestine.

Regent sends good wishes to S. Yemen

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, sent a cable of good wishes on Sunday to South Yemeni President Ali Nasser Mohammed congratulating him on his country's national day. In his cable, Prince Hassan also wished the Yemeni people further progress and prosperity.

Saudi leader meets Hani Al Hassan

RIYADH (J.T.) — Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz and Hani Al Hassan met on Sunday and reviewed the U.S. hijacking of an Egyptian plane carrying four Palestinian hijackers and a senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official last Friday, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. Mr. Hassan, a close aide to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, arrived here from Cairo on Friday after successfully mediating the hijacking of an Italian cruise ship by the four Palestinians who were aboard the intercepted Egyptian plane.

Khatib leaves for Bahrain today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Information, Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad Al Khatib leaves for Manama on Sunday on a three-day official visit to Bahrain, the Qatari News Agency said. During the visit Mr. Khatib will hold talks with his Bahraini counterpart Tariq Al Mu'ayyad on ways of bolstering bilateral cooperation between the two countries in the various information fields, the agency said.

Jordan denies Israeli report

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian official source on Sunday strongly denied reports that Jordan has given up a call for an international conference to discuss a solution for the Middle East problem in which the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as well as all concerned parties can participate. Jordan's stand vis-a-vis the conference remains unchanged and so is Jordan's attitude toward the PLO, according to the source who was quoted as saying by the Qatari News Agency (QNA). The agency said that the source was commenting on a report by Radio Israel that Jordan has now abandoned the conference and a call for the PLO to play a role in the peace process.

INSIDE

- * Iraq reports controlling northern war front, page 2
- * Jordanians, Palestinians 'fer condonances to murdered ADC official's family, page 3
- * The fairy tale of protectionism, page 4
- * Iraqi scholar explores concept of Islamic justice, page 5
- * Juventus maintains perfect form, page 6
- * EC, GCC ministers meet today, page 7
- * Belgians vote in tight security after bomb threats, page 8

Yugoslavia rejects U.S. request to arrest Abbas; Washington, Rome at odds

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

YUGOSLAVIA ON SUNDAY turned down a request by the U.S. for the arrest of a senior PLO official amid a growing rift between Rome and Washington over American contentions that Italian authorities should not have allowed him to leave Italy on Saturday.

Mohammad Abbas, a member of the Executive Committee of the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation), arrived in Yugoslavia late Saturday night aboard a Yugoslavian airliner after Washington announced that it had issued an arrest warrant against him and asked Italy to detain him. Washington asked Belgrade early Sunday to arrest Mr. Abbas (Abu Abbas) and extradite him to the U.S. to stand trial for "masterminding" the hijacking of an Italian cruise ship in the Mediterranean. Washington says that an American was killed aboard the liner but no dead body has been found.

U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director William Webster said later Sunday that Belgrade had turned down the

U.S. request.

Interviewed on the CBS Television programme "Face the Nation" Mr. Webster said: "My information is that... the Yugoslavian authorities have declined to detain Abbas under the request we made."

Mr. Webster said the request for Abbas' detention and extradition to the United States was made through Interpol, the international law enforcement information organisation. "I would anticipate that he will probably move along," Mr. Webster said of Abbas. "I understand he's operating under an Iraqi diplomatic passport... there's reason to believe he's in the PLO embassy at Belgrade, but that information changes hourly."

In an earlier statement, the U.S.

government said it found it "incomprehensible" that Italy had released Mr. Abbas. Mr. Abbas was not aboard the Achille Lauro when it was hijacked, but the United States contends he planned it. "The U.S. government is astonished at this breach of any reasonable standard of due process and is deeply disappointed" that the Italians let Mr. Abbas go, said a statement from White House spokesman Larry Speakes. The statement said the United States "finds it incomprehensible" that Italy released him.

The State Department said Italy told the United States it did not have grounds to hold Mr. Abbas. The U.S. statement said: "We are deeply disappointed at Italy's decision." The U.S. ambassador to Italy, firing a new salvo in the diplomatic row, asked for the extradition of the four Palestinians who hijacked the Achille Lauro.

Ambassador Maxwell Rabb met with Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti for two hours and told him that the release of Mr. Abbas was "incomprehensible to the government of the United States and to the people of the United States."

U.S. 'regrets' that hijacking of Egyptian plane was 'necessary'

CAIRO (Agencies) — U.S. Ambassador Nicholas Veliotis said Sunday the United States "regretted" that it was "necessary" to hijack an Egyptian plane carrying four Palestinian hijackers out of the country, saying the order was given "reluctantly."

"We deeply regret that this action was necessary," the ambassador said, reading a statement after delivering a message from President Ronald Reagan to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

"This was done after most serious consideration and with reluctance."

He praised the Egyptian role in ending the hijacking of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro.

"We have expressed our gratitude publicly and privately at the highest level for the role of the government of Egypt, which ensured there would be no further loss of life," he said.

The ambassador stressed that neither the United States nor

Egypt had confirmation of the death of a American passenger aboard the ship during negotiations between the Palestinian hijackers and Egyptian and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials.

He said the word from the captain of the ship was that none of the passengers had been harmed.

"We know later he took this position under duress with a gun at his head," Mr. Veliotis said. "Our first confirmation (of the death) came when the captain told me about midnight of Oct. 10 that Mr. (Leon) Klinghoffer had been murdered. And we told the Egyptians."

He said action taken by the Egyptian government prevented "a catastrophe of incalculable proportions."

His statement was aimed at restoring usually close U.S. ties with Egypt, one of Washington's main Arab allies and a major recipient of U.S. aid, after U.S. jet fighters

forced an Egyptian plane to land in Italy Thursday night as it tried to take the four hijackers to Tunis.

Mr. Mubarak on Saturday condemned what he called an act of air piracy and said U.S.-Egyptian relations would not recover quickly from the affair.

Mr. Veliotis said Sunday the United States has no interest in offending Egypt and that Washington's goal was to "put these incidents behind us" and get on with the job of searching for peace and stability in the region.

An American official characterised Mr. Reagan's letter to Mr. Mubarak as "a very good first step" in the aftermath of the hijacking incident and showed a "high level understanding" of the Egyptian position.

President Mubarak said Saturday he was personally hurt by the U.S. hijack of the Egyptian plane.

(Continued on page 4)

Israel hopes to use hijack saga as tool against PLO

By David Rogers
Reuters

TEL AVIV — Israel is hoping the Achille Lauro hijack saga has shattered prospects for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to be included in the Middle East peace process, officials said Sunday.

Elated by the United States' interception of the four hijackers, officials and newspapers hailed the events of the past week as a propaganda windfall for Israel.

"It may prove to have been (PLO leader Yasser) Arafat's biggest blunder," the Jerusalem Post said in an editorial.

For months Israel has fought international pressure to accept the PLO as negotiators. At one stage, it feared Washington's opposition to PLO participation in the peace process was weakening.

An official close to Prime Minister Shimon Peres contended that the Achille Lauro affair ruined the PLO's credentials for talking peace and showed the world Israel was right to portray the organisation as "terrorists."

It also set the stage for next week's talks between Peres and President Reagan. Both administrations accepted there was a PLO role in the Achille Lauro hijacking and the killing of three Israelis in Cyprus last month, according to him.

"This could be a turning point in the peace process. It could lead to direct discussions between Israel

and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, minus the PLO," the official said.

Other Israeli officials said it could be months before the dust settled and efforts to set up peace negotiations, which have made little progress, had received another jolt.

A communique after the weekly cabinet meeting underlined that Peres would use the Achille Lauro affair to back up Israel's contentions during his U.S. visit. It said PLO links to the affair would be one of the topics on the agenda.

After the meeting, officials stressed the hijacking should not further harm relations with Egypt, the only Arab state that recognises Israel.

Ties already strained were rocked by the killing of seven Israeli holidaymakers by an Egyptian policeman who ran amok in Sinai and a remark by President Hosni Mubarak dismissing the killings as "a minor incident."

Israeli anger over the killings, which led to demonstrations outside the Egyptian embassy here, appeared to have been eased on Sunday by a message from Mr. Mubarak.

The cabinet communique said Peres had received a letter from the Egyptian president promising a detailed report on the shootings and calling it a tragic incident.

Israel Radio interpreted this as an "apology" for Mr. Mubarak's earlier remarks.



MUBARAK MEETS THE PRESS: Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak talks to reporters in Cairo on Saturday condemning the U.S.

Interception of an Egyptian airliner on Friday as 'air piracy' (See story left below)

Howe meets joint delegation today

LONDON (Agencies) — The British government announced on Sunday it would hold talks Monday with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation including two 'Palestine' Liberation Organisation members, despite bitter criticism from the press and British Jews.

The Foreign Office refused to say where or at what time the meeting with Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe would take place, citing security needs.

Jordanian Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali and PLO Executive Committee member Bishop Elia Khouri arrived in London on Saturday. Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri was already in London and PLO Executive Committee member Mohammad Milhem flew in later Saturday.

Mr. Milhem and Bishop Khouri reportedly have received death threats from Palestinian extremists for accepting the invitation extended by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher when she visited Jordan last month.

The Board of Deputies of British Jews, which represents Britain's 400,000 Jews, appealed again for the cancellation of the talks, pointing out that it came in the shadow of the Palestinian hijacking of an Italian cruise ship in the Mediterranean.

But Sir Geoffrey defended Mrs. Thatcher's decision to hold talks with the delegation, the first meeting between a senior British cabinet minister and PLO representatives.

In a British Broadcasting Corporation radio interview on Sunday, Mr. Howe said: "We think

(Continued on page 5)

Regent calls on Europe to help peace endeavours

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, said Sunday the Middle East is desperately in need of peace called on Europe to help in endeavours for peace in the region, especially in light of the close ties between Europe and the region.

In a recorded address to a conference on scopes of international cooperation, which opened in Rome under the slogan of "Oil for Peace," Prince Hassan said that only peaceful conditions are conducive to the free flow of oil from the Arab World to Europe.

Prince Hassan made the address on behalf of His Majesty King Hussein.

Following is the text of the speech: It is a pleasure to address your important meeting on behalf of His Majesty King Hussein. I am also pleased to pay tribute to the Plo Manzu International Research Centre for organising these conferences which have become a regular feature of your work.

This gathering reaffirms the strong and close ties that have always existed between the Arab World and Europe. The interaction between our two regions has continued throughout recorded history to influence our fortunes and destiny. This is particularly true with the onset of Islamic civilisation which has left its positive impact on Europe. In modern times the process has been strengthened by the interdependence and commonality of interests which has developed over recent years.

Events and developments in Europe are quickly felt in the Arab World. The reverse is also true. Thus "Oil for Peace," the theme of your meeting, is particularly appropriate.

However, the escalation of tension in our troubled region through acts of violence by individuals and states is threatening the entire region and the peace process which my brother King Hussein has initiated. The Middle East is being polarised in a conflict of extremes. The conflict of the

(Continued on page 4)

Spanish police 'convinced' that Israelis killed in Barcelona were Mossad agents

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — Two men found murdered in this Mediterranean port city Oct. 9 and alleged to have been sailors missing from an Israeli container ship were Israeli secret agents, a newspaper reported Sunday.

A Barcelona correspondent for the independent daily El Pais said members of the Spanish police international terrorism squad were "convinced" the two men were members of the Mossad, the notorious Israeli secret service.

A member of the terrorism squad refused Sunday to answer questions by telephone and refused to identify himself, referring the caller to the press office of the Spanish national police, closed until Monday.

The newspaper quoted unnamed police as saying the two murdered men travelled as sailors aboard the Zim California because "it made it easier for them to enter and leave a country without too much hassle from immigration or

customs authorities."

The ship left Barcelona Oct. 6 for Halifax, Canada.

Although the Israeli press and television carried reports as early as Oct. 8 that Yacov Abu, 32, and Zion Abu, 36, both of Haifa, were missing, Spanish police only acknowledged the disappearance Oct. 9 the day the bound and gagged bodies of two men authorities said they "believed" were the sailors were found in a central Barcelona apartment.

Police have never officially identified the bodies as those of the two missing sailors. They said the bodies were too badly decomposed and that they were awaiting more information from Israeli authorities.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres told Israel Television Oct. 9 the two sailors had been invited to the apartment for coffee and were murdered there by members of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO).

El Pais said international terrorism squad members believed the two Israelis had come to Barcelona to make contact with the men who later killed them.

Police have said they are seeking a Palestinian, apparently the last person to rent the apartment, in connection with the killings.

In telephone calls to international news agencies in Beirut and Madrid Oct. 10, an anonymous spokesman claimed "Force 17" was an elite unit that PLO commando initially served as bodyguards for PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The same group was claimed to be responsible for the killings Sept. 25 in Larnaca, Cyprus, of three Israelis, initially described as tourists by Israeli authorities.

Newspaper reports published subsequently in France suggested the two men and one woman were members of the Mossad.

Abbas: Achille Lauro hijack was an accident

CAIRO (Agencies) — The man accused by the United States of "masterminding" last week's hijacking of an Italian ship was quoted Sunday as saying the aim of the hijackers was to attack Israel. Mohammad Abbas, sought by the U.S. Justice Department, told Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) that the four ship hijackers planned a "suicide mission" against Israel.

"Their mission was not to hijack the Italian ship or to threaten the lives of the passengers," Mr. Abbas was quoted as saying by MENA. "Their destination was the Israeli port of Ashdod for the purpose of carrying out a suicide mission inside the occupied territories."

Mr. Abbas was interviewed in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, where he flew Saturday night from Rome after the Justice Department asked Italy for his extradition. Mr. Abbas was on the Egyptian airliner diverted to Sicily by U.S. warplanes with the four Palestinian ship hijackers.

Mr. Abbas, also known as Abu Abbas or Abu Khaled, said "pure accident" changed the course of events" when the hijackers were discovered after it left the Egyptian port of Alexandria on Monday.

"This forced them to seize the ship," he said. Italian press reports said a waiter discovered the hijackers cleaning their weapons as the passengers were having lunch. Mr. Abbas denied that the four hijackers had killed U.S. passenger Leon Klinghoffer, noting that the crippled American had a heart condition.

The 38-year-old Palestinian official, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee, based his denial on statements by the ship's captain, Gerardo de Rosa.

"When I boarded the ship at the end of the negotiations with the four Palestinians, I asked the captain whether there had been any injuries among the passengers or crew members," he said. "The captain assured me there had been no injuries."

Mr. Abbas said he was sent to Egypt by the PLO leadership to help in negotiations to end the hijacking. The hijackers surrendered Wednesday 52 hours after the takeover.

"This mission was crowned with success with the help of Egyptian authorities who made a great effort to end the crisis," Mr. Abbas said.

He also expressed gratitude to the Italians for allowing him and a bodyguard to leave the country despite U.S. demands that he be flown to the United States for trial.

Mr. Abbas heads a wing of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), a PLO faction, loyal to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

An anonymous caller for the PLF told a Western news agency in Beirut on Sunday the hijackers of the Achille Lauro were not responsible for the death of an American passenger on board.

"Our information... established that he had a heart attack and was moved to the ship's hospital," the PLF said in a statement dictated to the news agency in Beirut. "After that, we don't know how he disappeared and who hid him."

The PLF statement urged the governments of Italy and Egypt to clarify the circumstances of "the kidnapping of the American citizen," which it suggested was the work of U.S. intelligence.

"We ask the whole world: what interest would our comrades have in killing an old and handicapped man?" it said.

In a similar statement telephoned to an international news agency here last Friday, the PLF denied it had killed anyone aboard the ship and said the United States would "pay dearly" if the captured hijackers were harmed.

(Continued on page 5)

Iraq reports controlling northern Gulf war zone

BAGHDAD (R) — An Iraqi naval commander was quoted Sunday as saying the Iranian Navy had abandoned the northern Gulf, leaving the whole war zone at the mercy of the Iraqi Air Force and Navy.

Baghdad newspapers quoted the commander, a rear admiral whom they did not name, as saying Iran had yielded control of the area from Bushire to the Shatt Al Arab waterway to Iraq.

This left economic facilities in the zone — which includes Iran's main oil terminal at Kharg Island and the southern port of Bandar Khomeini — open to daily attack by Iraq, he said.

The zone includes the most important Iranian oilfields, which the Tehran Navy left unprotected to head southward for manoeuvres that were nothing but a show of muscle, he said in a reference to Iranian naval exercises last week near the Strait of Hormuz at the entrance to the Gulf.

The commander said the offshore Behregans oilfield, hit by the Iraqi Navy Saturday, was "an important Iranian oil and economic target consisting of several oil wells and a main pumping station which pumps oil to export terminals including the wrecked Kharg Island."

Iraq has reported 26 air attacks on Kharg since Aug. 15 in a drive to destroy its facilities and cut off the oil exports needed to finance Iran's war effort.

Iran says damage has not been serious and crude shipments have not been significantly disrupted. It has threatened to close Hormuz to all shipping if its oil exports are ever completely halted.

The admiral said the Behregans field, just off the Iranian coast and some 60 miles east of the nearest Iraqi territory was hit with two tonnes of explosives which completely destroyed it.

The Iraqi Navy and Air Force would forestall any Iranian attempt to repair the damage at Behregans as well as at the Nowruz field further south, attacked by the navy on Oct. 3, the newspapers quoted him as saying.

Oil industry sources in the Gulf said most of the Iranian offshore oilfields in the war zone had been sealed off early in the five-year-old war because of their vulnerability to attack.

Iraq has reported capping all wells in the Nowruz field which were damaged in earlier Iraqi attacks.

Iraq said its aircraft launched a destructive attack Saturday night on a "large naval target" near the Iranian coast in the northern Gulf.

A military spokesman said on Baghdad Radio that the attack took place at 2215 local time (1915 GMT) Saturday and all the aircraft returned safely to base.

The phrase "a large naval target" is Iraq's usual term for a tanker or merchant ship in Gulf war communications.

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PLO said to be in 'deep financial trouble'

DOHA, Qatar (AP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is in "deep financial trouble," a Palestinian official was quoted Sunday as saying.

Gamal Al Sourani, head of the Palestinian Bar Association who has been entrusted with studying the condition of Palestinians in the Arab World, made the statement in an interview with the Jafari newspaper Al Raya.

The PLO "expenditure is scores of times more than revenue," he said.

"PLO expenses are over \$250 million, while revenue from the Liberation Tax does not exceed

\$30 million," he said. He did not say over what period of time the amounts were expended or collected.

The Liberation Tax is a voluntary levy paid by Palestinians around the world to the PLO.

The group's other major source of income had been payments from oil-rich countries agreed to at an Arab summit conference in Baghdad in 1979. But Mr. Sourani said most Arab countries had stopped providing this revenue.

Kuwait, complaining of reduced oil income, has slashed its contributions.

He denied that the plane had landed because of a bomb scare as reported earlier by the Press Trust of India (PTI).

"All what happened is that one of the engines developed a technical fault which made an

explosion-like sound familiar to engines in such incidents... several passengers were injured in the rush to reach emergency chutes," he told Reuters.

He said he did not have the number of passengers injured or the total number of people on the Airbus.

PTI earlier reported from New Delhi that twelve people were injured in the rush to leave the plane after it landed following a bomb scare. It also said the plane was flying from Kuwait to Bombay.

Iranian prime minister approved for 2nd term

LONDON (Agencies) — Mir-Hossein Mousavi was confirmed in office for a second term as prime minister of Iran by vote of the Majlis (parliament) Sunday, the National News Agency IRNA said.

The poll was 162-73 in favour of Mr. Mousavi with 26 abstentions, the agency received in London, reported.

Mr. Mousavi, a 42-year-old former architect, had been nominated by President Ali Khamenei, sworn in for a second four-year term three days ago following his September election victory.

Mr. Mousavi's reappointment had been in doubt until a few days ago, with Tehran newspapers reporting that Mr. Khamenei favoured a less radical premier.

But it became a certainty after spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini expressed confidence in Mr. Mousavi in a message to 135 deputies who supported him.

IRNA said talks would continue on formation of a new cabinet, quoting newspapers as saying they might last two weeks.

Observers said this reflected continuation of a power struggle, mainly over economic policy, between advocates of private enterprise and radical "populists" campaigning against property owners.

The opposition to Mr. Mousavi came from conservative clerics and the "Bazari" or business community, who charged that his stay in power for another four years would endanger Iran's future.

Such public debate is unusual in Iran where government opposition is strictly controlled.

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Mr. Mousavi, 43, is also supported by young Muslim fundamentalists, including the powerful Association of Iranian Students.

Mr. Mousavi's stay in power is not expected to affect policy governing the Iran-Iraq war, now in its sixth year.

Sudanese 'would resist' military dictator

CAIRO (R) — Sudan's Foreign Affairs Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayoub has said the Sudanese people would fight to the death to stop another dictator like ousted leader Jafar Numeiri coming to power in the next election.

Numeiri, who took over in a military coup and ruled for 16 years, was toppled by the army last April.

Mr. Ayoub told Reuters in an interview Saturday that the post-coup caretaker government would stick to its promise to hold elections before the transitional period ended next April.

Mr. Ayoub, accompanying Prime Minister Al Gazouli Daffa Allah on his first visit to Egypt since the takeover, said elections should be possible in February or March.

Asked what the Sudanese people expected from the elections,

he said: "I tell you what they do not need — a military dictator. And for that the people are ready to die."

Sudan has been pressing Egypt for the extradition of Numeiri, who was granted political asylum here after the coup.

Sudanese official sources said they believed he was still in Egypt, contrary to reports that he had left the country.

The extradition of Numeiri has soured relations between Sudan and Egypt, but official sources said it was not raised in talks Sunday between Mr. Daffa Allah and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Mr. Ayoub said rebels in southern Sudan were now on the defensive after strengthening their position in the last two months with military assistance from outside quarters.

But he refused to say which foreign country was providing arms for the rebels, led by dissident Col. John Garang.

Col. Garang's Sudan Peoples' Liberation Army has been fighting a two-year-long bush war against government troops in the non-Arab south.

Mr. Ayoub said: "The only way for solving the problem in the south is by peaceful means and direct negotiations with us."

"He (Garang) can come to Khartoum or we can meet him at any point."

Mr. Ayoub added: "Libya said it stopped its aid to Garang, and as good people we always believe them."

Mr. Daffa Allah was due to leave for the United States Sunday to discuss bilateral relations. He said he expected Washington to continue its aid, running to \$600 million annually.

He denied that the plane had landed because of a bomb scare as reported earlier by the Press Trust of India (PTI).

"All what happened is that one of the engines developed a technical fault which made an

explosion-like sound familiar to engines in such incidents... several passengers were injured in the rush to reach emergency chutes," he told Reuters.

He said he did not have the number of passengers injured or the total number of people on the Airbus.

PTI earlier reported from New Delhi that twelve people were injured in the rush to leave the plane after it landed following a bomb scare. It also said the plane was flying from Kuwait to Bombay.

Iranian prime minister approved for 2nd term

LONDON (Agencies) — Mir-Hossein Mousavi was confirmed in office for a second term as prime minister of Iran by vote of the Majlis (parliament) Sunday, the National News Agency IRNA said.

The poll was 162-73 in favour of Mr. Mousavi with 26 abstentions, the agency received in London, reported.

Mr. Mousavi, a 42-year-old former architect, had been nominated by President Ali Khamenei, sworn in for a second four-year term three days ago following his September election victory.

Mr. Mousavi's reappointment had been in doubt until a few days ago, with Tehran newspapers reporting that Mr. Khamenei favoured a less radical premier.

But it became a certainty after spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini expressed confidence in Mr. Mousavi in a message to 135 deputies who supported him.

IRNA said talks would continue on formation of a new cabinet, quoting newspapers as saying they might last two weeks.

Observers said this reflected continuation of a power struggle, mainly over economic policy, between advocates of private enterprise and radical "populists" campaigning against property owners.

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Kuwait Airways makes forced landing at Bombay

KUWAIT (R) — Several people were injured when a Kuwaiti Airways Airbus, flying from Bombay to Kuwait, turned back for an emergency landing at Bombay airport Sunday with a fault in one of its engines, a Kuwait Airways spokesman said.

He denied that the plane had landed because of a bomb scare as reported earlier by the Press Trust of India (PTI).

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explosion-like sound familiar to engines in such incidents... several passengers were injured in the rush to reach emergency chutes," he told Reuters.

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British military official concludes Jordan visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — British Minister of State for the Armed Forces John Stanley and his accompanying delegation left Amman for Saudi Arabia on Sunday concluding their visit to Jordan. During their stay in the Kingdom they were received in audience by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and also held talks with Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai and other senior officials.

Mr. Stanley also toured a number of army installations and met with Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and his aides.

The British minister was received by Gen. Sharif Zaid at the army headquarters Sunday just before his departure and the meeting was attended by British Ambassador in Jordan Arthur John Coles, Gen. Sharif Zaid was also at the airport to bid farewell to Mr. Stanley and his delegation.

The Qatari News Agency said that during his visit to Saudi Arabia, Mr. Stanley will hold talks with Saudi officials on Anglo-Saudi Arabian military cooperation.

Military, industrial seminar issues recommendations

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day seminar on the scope of industrial military cooperation and held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, concluded at the Amman Chamber of Industry on Sunday.

In the last session, several questions raised by the participants were answered and then the seminar's rapporteur read out the recommendations to the audience.

Prince Hassan, who addressed the opening session on Saturday, stressed the necessity of military participation in national integrated plan, and was present at the closing session. Also attending the closing session was Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

More People's Army recruits complete training in Balqa

AMMAN (Petra) — Another batch of recruits, who received training for the People's Army in Balqa Governorate, graduated Sunday at a ceremony held in Salt. The commander of the People's Army Brigadier Abdul Majid Khalafleh made a speech at the ceremony, emphasising the need for all citizens to be trained in civil defence methods. The commander also paid tribute to the cooperation of all companies and factories in Balqa Governorate which offered facilities for the training of the 480 graduates.

Brig. Khalafleh earlier made an inspection tour of a training centre in Balqa Governorate and watched recruits carrying out their training exercises.

The graduation ceremony was attended by the military commander in Balqa Governorate, senior officers and representatives of factories and companies whose workers are members of the graduating group.

Medical team returns from inspection visit to Sudan

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian medical team returned to Amman Sunday after a visit to Sudan where its members assessed the country's requirements of medical supplies needed for the victims of drought and famine.

The medical team has reported to the Health Ministry on its findings and upon its recommendations Jordan has so far sent two plane loads of medical supplies to the Sudanese people. The team was led by Dr. Anwar Bilbisi from the Health Ministry who said that a comprehensive study on the situation has been prepared for submission to Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh. The study will also be reviewed by the Jordanian National Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese People.

Health Ministry sources said further relief supplies will be sent to Sudan soon. The Jordanian national committee has announced the end of this month as the deadline for collecting contributions and donations for Sudan.

WFP grants 4-year extension to highland development plan

AMMAN (Petra) — The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has decided to extend a project for developing highland regions in Jordan for another four years starting in 1986, the Ministry of Agriculture announced here Sunday.

The ministry's director of the highland development project, Mr. Ahmad Al Rimawi, announced this upon returning from WFP's meetings held recently in Rome. He said that WFP will spend \$17.5 million on implementing the fourth stage of the ministry's project that will last until 1990.

The WFP will provide Jordan with basic food supplies for farmers whose lands are involved in the project, Mr. Rimawi added. He said that the WFP's decision was based on the recommendations of WFP teams who visited Jordan last April and whose members inspected the project being carried out in various parts of the Kingdom.

According to Mr. Rimawi, nearly 100,000 dunums of land owned by small farmers, and another 100,000 owned by the state, are included in the project and will be reclaimed and planted with fruit trees.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kayed meets with AOAS director

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Interior Hassan Al Kayed conferred in his office Sunday with Dr. Nasser Al Sayegh, the director general of the Arab Organisation of Administrative Sciences (AOAS). During the meeting the two officials discussed cooperation between the Jordanian government and the AOAS as well as arrangements for holding an international conference on administrative sciences in Amman. AOAS sources said that the conference will be held in September 1986.

Iraqi Bar Association chief arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Iraqi Bar Association, Mr. Hamid Al Rawi, arrived in Amman Sunday for a visit expected to last several days. Mr. Rawi is on a tour of Arab countries to discuss the serious implications of a recently concluded Iranian-Libyan agreement and its dangers to the Arab nation in general and Iraq in particular. Mr. Rawi has visited Cairo and Khartoum on his tour.

Senegalese envoy lauds Jordan's stands

AMMAN (Petra) — Outgoing Senegalese Ambassador to Jordan Youssef Baro has lauded Jordan's pan-Arab stands and His Majesty King Hussein's efforts to serve Arab causes. During a meeting Sunday with Foreign Ministry Secretary General Tayseer Toukan, Mr. Baro praised the courageous and wise leadership of King Hussein. The two sides reviewed the current situation in the Middle East as well as bilateral cooperation in various fields and ways of promoting this cooperation.

Rawabdeh leaves for Peking

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'uf Al Rawabdeh left for Peking Sunday on a two week visit to China. He will make a tour of development projects in urban and rural regions and will also hold talks with Chinese government officials on cooperation between Peking and Amman municipalities.



Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker bids farewell to British Minister of State for the Armed Forces John Stanley (third left) at the end of Mr. Stanley's visit to Jordan (Petra photo)

Safety measures should be a prerequisite in obtaining building licences, CDD says

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day

symposium on engineering safety and industrial security opened at the Professional Associations Complex in Amman Sunday. Addressing the opening session was Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan who said that his ministry is keen to introduce measures at industrial concerns in Jordan which would ensure safety for workers and provide protection against occupational hazards. He suggested that a safer working environment could be ensured through constant inspection visits and campaigns to spread safety awareness among workers through the Labour Ministry's Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) and the Social Security Corporation (SSC).

Industrial security is considered a basic objective in the country's development projects and the ministry is concerned with safeguarding all civilians involved in the national social and economic development, the minister said. Also addressing the opening session was Jordanian Engineers Association President Ibrahim Abu Ayyash who said that the association was concerned with the safety of all citizens, especially those involved in engineering projects. He said that the association has established a general safety and industrial security committee to contribute towards achieving this goal. The committee also plans to hold seminars and increase awareness about safety and security. Mr. Abu Ayyash added, which was formed two years ago, held its first meeting in 1983 and discussed 21 working papers on this subject with particular attention on protection from electrical and chemical dangers, poisonous substances and fires at factories and homes.

Taking part in the symposium are engineers representing various institutions and organisations of the public and private sectors. Apart from security and safety, the 23 working papers will tackle the role of the Civil Defence Department, doctors and the information media in providing or informing the public about protection, rescue services and first aid.

Haj Hassan inaugurates symposium on industrial security

AMMAN (Petra) — The Civil Defence Department (CDD) Sunday called on Jordanian authorities which issue licences for building homes and factories to have the basic designs of the projects endorsed by the Civil Defence Department before authorisation for building is granted.

CDD Director Lieutenant General Khaled Tarawneh said that procedures are currently underway for issuing formal legislation making it compulsory for all owners of factories or public buildings to include safety measures in the premises in order to ensure public safety.

He said in a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that this step was deemed necessary in view of the rapid industrial development in the country and the construction of premises housing large numbers of workers.

The CDD is the authority responsible for ensuring that safety measures are included in all buildings as a means to protect human lives from fires and other dangers. Lt. Gen. Tarawneh added. Every large building should have a fire escape, water tanks and warning systems before a licence can be issued and this move is in harmony with the Jordan National Building Code, he said.

Potential dangers

Lt. Gen. Tarawneh cautioned against any delay in implementing these new measures because he said that buildings with no proper or effective safety measures could be potentially dangerous as it might be impossible or difficult to rescue its occupants in case of an emergency.

Factories, hotels and other buildings, especially those occupied by 100 persons or more, should have all the necessary safety and security arrangements, Lt. Gen. Tarawneh added.

The civil defence director returned to Amman on Friday from a two-week official visit to Japan and South Korea during which he inspected safety and security measures at various public buildings, factories and companies in both countries.

CORRECTION

The Jordan Times erroneously reported on Saturday that a charity bazaar opened by Her Majesty Queen Zein, the Queen Mother, would last for 20 days. In fact the bazaar was only held for one day last Thursday. The Jordan Times regrets the error.

Housing Corporation prepares to hand over Abu Nuseir units

AMMAN (Petra) — The Housing Corporation's board of directors met here Sunday under the chairmanship of Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Al-Hmoud. The board decided on the principles and regulations to be followed in handing over housing units at the Abu Nuseir housing project to government employees who applied for the low-cost housing.

According to the decisions taken at the meeting, each employee entitled to purchase a housing unit in the new estate should report to the Housing Corporation within ten days after his name appears in the local press in order to discuss arrangements for instalment payments.

All government employees entitled to own such units should pay the advance payment to the Housing Corporation within seven years and should undertake to settle the rest of the cost over a period extending up to 25 years, according to a statement issued after the meeting.

Technical committee reviews standards for paper industry

AMMAN (Petra) — A technical committee formed by the Amman-based Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (ASMO) opened a three-day meeting in Amman Sunday. The committee charged with drawing up specifications for the manufacture of paper and cardboard includes representatives of Jordan, Syria, Tunisia and Lebanon.

The committee was addressed by ASMO Director Mahdi Hannoush who referred to the importance of the paper and cardboard industry and its relation to the other industries in the Arab World. The committee will discuss a number of specifications for the paper and cardboard industry, an ASMO spokesman said.

Dr. Hannoush earlier issued a statement on the eve of the anniversary of the International Standardisation Organisation's (ISO) which groups 91 countries including 15 Arab states.

He said that the Arab World at present faces cultural challenges and therefore should take measures to absorb modern technology. He spoke about the aims and objectives of ASMO and its drive to unify specifications and standards for Arab countries and its efforts to help build integrated industries in the region.

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Jordanians, Palestinians offer condolences to family of murdered Arab political activist

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The family of Alex Odeh, a prominent Arab-American leader, who was killed in a bomb explosion in the United States last Friday, started to receive condolences from Jordanians and Palestinians at the Society of Jeffnah on Sunday.



Alex Odeh

Mr. Odeh, the coordinator of the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) in the West Coast of the U.S., was killed when an explosive device ripped through the organisation's office in Santa Ana in California.

His Majesty King Hussein Saturday deputed Jordanian Ambassador to the United States Mohammad Kamal to extend condolences to the wife and brothers of Mr. Odeh in Santa Ana. The King also sent a message to the ADC in Washington in which he expressed his total support for the organisation and urged it to continue its struggle to achieve a just, durable and peaceful settlement to the Palestinian question.

The ADC was formed five years ago by Mr. James Abu Rezk, a former senator of South Dakota, with the objectives of combating anti-Arab stereotyping and to explain the Arab view of the Arab-Israeli conflict. At a press conference in Washington on Saturday, Mr. Abu Rezk accused the American administration of "creating an atmosphere in which people who are unbalanced can convince themselves that planting bombs is an act condoned by the authorities."

Mr. Odeh, 43, was killed a day after he appeared on a local television station for an interview during which he defended Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

He was quoted as having said in the interview that the PLO had nothing to do with the hijacking of an Italian liner by Palestinian gunmen last week and that Mr. Arafat "did an excellent job and we commend him for his positive role in solving the issue (the ship hijacking)."

In the same interview he described Mr. Arafat as "a man of peace." The PLO leadership in Tunis has condemned the killing of Mr. Odeh calling it an assassination.

A local southern Californian station reported on Friday that a man walked into the ADC office in Santa Ana before 9 a.m. and delivered a package containing the bomb. It exploded when it was opened by Mr. Odeh, killing him and injuring seven other people.

Mr. Odeh was born in Jeffnah, a small town near Ramallah in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. He went to school in Birzeit, Nablus and Ramallah. He obtained a Bachelors of Art in political sciences and economics, from the University of Cairo before leaving to the U.S. in 1972 where he obtained a Masters Degree in political sciences from the California State University in Los Angeles before teaching politics at the

Coast Line Community College. Mr. Odeh became involved in the Arab community's activities which aimed at clarifying the Palestinian question to the American public. Mr. Odeh used to give lectures on the Palestinian question at community centres and at the different universities in California and other parts of the U.S. He also was known for organising pro-Arab rallies and cultural events to introduce Americans to the Palestinian heritage and history.

In the early eighties Mr. Odeh headed the Orange County branch of the Palestine Arab Fund, an American-Palestinian organisation which raises funds for the victims of Israeli raids and for Palestinian institutions in the Israeli-occupied territories. The Palestine Arab Fund was also very active during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982 and staged many protest rallies against Israel and the U.S. administration in California.

A father of three daughters, Mr. Odeh had written three books on Palestine, one of which was entitled "Whispers in Exile."

JJA calls for measures to halt Israeli censorship of Arab publications

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Journalists' Association (JJA) Sunday appealed to Arab, foreign and international organisations to take practical measures to stop Israel's acts of repression against the freedom of press, publications and expression in the occupied Arab territories. The JJA said in a statement issued here that the occupied Arab territories are now witnessing a "vicious campaign" launched by the Israeli authorities and Zionist settlers against Arab citizens, journalists, social and cultural organisations.

"The Israelis have been banning the publication and circulation of hundreds of cultural and scientific books and have disrupted classes at Bir Zeit, Najah and Bethlehem universities, detaining both students and teachers, and carrying out repressive measures against Arab journalists, reporters and editors, imposing house arrest on them and banning their publications," the statement said.

According to the statement, in the middle of July 1985 the Israeli authorities issued resolution No. 1140 forcing Arab newspapers to publish Israeli communiques issued by the military governor's office including decisions about confiscation of Arab lands and other arbitrary measures directed against Arab institutions.

The statement said that in addition to censorship, the Israelis have been imposing very strict control on all the activities and publications of all Arab journalists.

Of late, the statement said, the Israelis closed down "Al Darb" Arabic daily newspaper and a book shop in Jerusalem which they alleged it used to sell publications containing anti-Israeli propaganda.



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Israel's hopeless fight

ISRAEL hopes to make some capital out of the spate of violence that has hit the Middle East in recent weeks. A country that thrives on bloodshed and vengeance does not deserve international respect and understanding. But such is the sorry state of affairs in this part of the world: Israel has to be accommodated if the cycle of violence and instability is to end.

The Arab World has said and repeated, loudly and clearly, its desire to end the state of war with the Zionist state provided that the Palestinians are given their equal share in Palestine and their legitimate rights to self-determination and statehood. No, Israel has said: Any settlement to the Palestinian problem has to be fashioned only in a way that meets its demands. This has meant the predominance of Israel's superiority and hegemony over Arabs before and after any peaceful formula is reached.

This is a precondition that Arabs will not accept, not now, not later, not ever. Israel can exist in the midst of the Arab World but only if it accepts the inevitability of its existence as a minority state with all that goes with it in concept and practice.

It is in this context that Israel is ill-advised to continue its mad war against the PLO and the Palestinian people. If those are the true enemy of Israel, then Israelis have to talk with them and accommodate their basic demands. This is the only and sure way towards lasting peace. All other avenues are totally blocked.

The saga of the Achille Lauro hijacking may have indeed been a windfall propaganda for Israel. But this is only half the truth, as the violent events of the past few weeks have proved. The cardinal fact remains that the cycle of violence will not be broken by excluding anybody from the search for peace. Israeli-Arab peace cannot and will not be reached at the expense of the Palestinian people. Only with legitimate Palestinian participation and full involvement in the quest for it can peace be had.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S. gesture to Israel

ISRAEL ANNOUNCED Saturday that the U.S. seizure of the Egyptian plane carrying the hijackers out of Egypt was a practical support for Israel's air raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis. This declaration clearly reflects that the United States wanted to compensate Israel for its abstention at the recent U.N. Security Council session which condemned Israel's aggression.

The hijacking of the ship and the Egyptian plane only provided the U.S. with the proper tool to offer this compensation. The interception of the plane for which Reagan took pride, as its mastermind, was carried out only in favour of Israel, to win its satisfaction, or rather served as a bill which the United States had to pay to Israel at the expense of Egypt's dignity.

This wicked American attitude will not be deleted from the minds and memories of the Arab masses. It constitutes another subversive element directed against the peace process, and a means of rekindling hostilities in the Middle East.

Italy, for its part, has not yet provided any denial of its role in the whole affair particularly because the NATO base where the plane was taken lies on its territory, and also because the Israeli planes that raided Tunis re-fuelled at this Italian base on its way to carry out its evil mission.

Al Dustour: An act of terrorism

THERE IS no doubt that the fast moving events in the Mediterranean region over the past week had created tension in the whole region, but most importantly, they had caused considerable harm to the peace process. This was exactly what Israel wanted and worked for so diligently.

This dangerous situation in our region is clearly in Israel's favour because it creates an atmosphere that does not help the peace process to go ahead but helps Israel to perpetuate its occupation of Arab land and consolidate its hold over the region's destiny through terrorism and piracy.

Of course, U.S. interception of an Egyptian plane was illegal, and endangered civil aviation freedom, but this act was also intended to give legal support for Israel's air raid on the headquarters of the PLO, which Washington claims adopts acts of terrorism and condones it. Israel has recently announced its intention of pursuing its raids on all PLO positions in any parts of the Arab World, and the American seizure of the Egyptian plane represents an encouragement for Israel to follow that path and to carry out its threats.

But all of this is bound to increase tension in this region and is bound to encourage war instead of peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: A new army role

IN JORDAN, the military establishment has a dual role to play, it is in charge of defending the homeland and at the same time it takes active part in the building of the country and its development projects.

This establishment has a long experience in industrial techniques and production, an experience that could be put to good use and could be made to help the civilian industries make important achievements.

The seminar, opened in Amman Saturday by Crown Prince Hassan, is clearly designed to direct both the civilian and military industries towards fruitful cooperation in line with King Hussein's directives, who is the source of pride for all armed forces personnel and Jordanian citizens.

Therefore, in view of the importance of the military establishment's industrial experience, it would be essential for this establishment to take part in planning development projects in the country.

The fairy tale of protectionism

By Dr. Nayef S. Zubi

THE ARGUMENTS for tariffs and trade restrictions are many. They include: expanding the production of the protected industry, thus increasing national income, creating and expanding home markets, improving the trade balance, checking consumption of luxuries, maintaining domestic wages, and countering lower costs of imported goods. Other arguments indicate that trade restrictions could serve as a mechanism of distributing income, attracting means of production from abroad, reducing unemployment, and allowing infant industries to stand on their feet.

Non-economic arguments also have been advanced. They include the need to maintain national security and defence, the necessity of preserving both the special ethos of the nation, and specific classes of population (tariffs on agricultural commodities might lie under this heading).

A preposterous argument, that is ironically humorous, has it that trade restrictions increment purchasing power in the national economy.

By protecting the agrarian sector, the argument goes, industrial production will benefit, simply because the purchasing power of the consumers of industrial products has gone up. This argument, when reversed, would also indicate that industrial protection will increase the purchasing power available for agricultural product and the end result will be benefitting agriculture. "Hat der Bauer Geld, so hat's die Ganze Welt" — when the peasant waxes fat, all the world grows rich on that," so they said.

The problem with the purchasing power argument are two fold: First, once one diverges from free trade doctrine, he is in the ocean without guidance. What determines the level, the scope, and the length of the production becomes an exercise in knowing how favours are distributed in the political process, rather than an exercise in economic science.

Second, the argument, if pushed to its limit, will soon come to its

logical conclusion: protect every branch in the industry, and make sure that your doors are tightly closed, because a long-night sleep,

lies ahead of you, a reward you deserve for the good job done.

The flaw in protectionists' arguments has been exposed, and in a sarcastic manner by Fredric Bastiat in his famous and imaginary petition on behalf of candle-makers, requesting parliament to protect them against the destructive competition of the sun. What he wrote 130 years ago deserves a few minutes of the busy schedule of economic policy makers in our country, because in many cases they are tempted to leap in the dark. This is what Bastiat wrote:

"If you would only block up as far as possible every means of entry for natural light and thus increase the need for artificial light, what industry in the whole country would not thereby benefit to some extent? ... If the manufacturers gain by protection, this at the same time benefits agriculture. If agriculture gains, it has more money to spend on industrial products. If we were granted a

monopoly of the provision of light, we should at once purchase large quantities of tallow, coal, oil, resin, wax, spirits of wine, silver, iron, bronze and crystal glass for the needs of our industry. (We and our numerous suppliers, upon acquiring more purchasing power, would spend more and so increase the prosperity of every branch of national production. ... It may perhaps be objected that light is a free gift of nature and that to throw away gifts is to lessen welfare). ... You should consider, however, that up to the present you have always on that account cut down foreign imports, just because they approach to being gifts, and the more nearly they have been gifts the more have you shunned them.

When a commodity such as coal or iron or wheat or cloth comes from abroad and we thus obtain it with less labour than if we had produced it for ourselves, the difference is a gift which is being made to us. This gift is greater or less, the greater or less is this difference. It reaches a maximum when the giver, as the sun with its

light, demands nothing from us in exchange. The question is, therefore, whether our country desires the alleged benefit of a costless consumption or the proved advantages of a work-creating production. We beg you to choose, but to choose logically. If you make your duties higher, as in fact you do, upon coal or iron or wheat or cloth from abroad, the lower is their price, how inconsistent would it not be to allow the sun-light, whose price is all, to have free entry during the whole of each day?"

The moral of the story is rather obvious and warrants no further comments. I dedicate it to those who tend to believe that Jordan can maintain high standards of living behind the high walls of tariffs, and trade restrictions.

Dr. Zubi is a Jordanian scholar, who teaches business at the University of Southern California (USC) in Los Angeles. He contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.



Iran quietly trying to regain friends

By Juan-Carlos Gumbio
The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran is quietly trying to improve relations with Eastern and Western countries following six years of self-imposed seclusion. The change has yielded results, including agreements for increased cooperation and trade.

The friendly overtures seek to improve political and economic relations with the rest of the world, severely strained after the 1979 Islamic revolution and the U.S.-led embargo that followed the U.S. embassy crisis.

The embargo has largely crippled Iran's ability to buy weapons and spare needed for its six-year-old war with Iraq. Iraqi air attacks are limiting Iran's ability to ship oil and cutting its oil income.

Iranian foreign ministry officials refused to grant interviews on the country's foreign policy. But some officials say privately that top priority is being given to overcoming the country's industrial problems by seeking technology agreements with Japan and East Bloc nations.

Links with Western Europe have also been expanding, with West Germany topping the list of countries responding to Iran's friendly overtures.

In the past year, Iran has sent high-level delegations to China, Japan, the Soviet Union and several Third World nations. And though the prospect of restoring relations with the United States remains remote, Iranian leaders say they have to be repaired sometime.

Iran last week dropped its long-standing demand to expel Israel from the United Nations.

The vitriolic tone of Iranian speeches during the early revolutionary days, when the superpowers were relentlessly depicted as "the great satans," has been gradually watered down.

Iran has played host to a ministerial delegation from Saudi Arabia on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council, some of whose members fear the spread of Iran's brand of Islamic fundamentalism.

Tehran also has signed multi-million dollar accords with neighbouring Turkey and Pakistan, reviving a 1964 agreement for regional economic cooperation.

Observers here attach particular interest to Iran's approaches to China and Japan.

During a visit to Peking in June, the speaker of parliament, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, said Iran and China had agreed on "90 per cent" of the issues discussed. Bilateral trade is expected to reach an unprecedented \$600 million this year.

Rafsanjani also traveled to Japan in the first visit by an official of the Islamic Republic to an industrialized democracy.

The trip brought about an accord to establish regular ministerial consultations to step up economic cooperation.

Japan is already one of Iran's major oil customers and is helping fund construction of a multi-billion-dollar petrochemical complex in the southern port of Bandar Khomeini.

Rafsanjani hinted there may be room for some improvement in relations with the United States when he told Japanese journalists on July 3: "We are not going to sever relations with the Americans forever."

"But the United States must take the initiative and should reopen the past deeds and compensate for what they have done," he added, possibly to mollify Iranian public opinion.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan's administration regularly lashes out at Iran as the cradle of terrorism.

Washington's decision to restore full diplomatic relations with Iraq last November has further alienated Tehran, which sees the move as a potentially dangerous alliance in the Iran-Iraq war.

The Soviet Union, which is Iraq's main weapons supplier, has also kept its distance from Iran. Last July, the Soviets withdrew an unspecified number of technicians working in Iran for what Moscow termed "security reasons."

The withdrawal sparked an angry reaction in Tehran, which accused the Soviets of "trying to create difficulties" by causing electricity shortages, further burdening Iran's troubled economy.

After a five-day visit to Moscow in July, Iranian officials were said to have received assurances that the technicians, who were working in hydroelectric projects, would return soon.

Relations between Tehran and Moscow have also been strained because of Iran's crackdown on Iranian Communists of the Tudeh Party and Iran's support for anti-Soviet guerrillas in neighbouring Afghanistan.



U.S. sanctions making little impact on South Africa

By Sue Baker
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Since President Reagan imposed sanctions on South Africa nine months ago, the United States has seen few concrete signs that Pretoria's white minority government has heeded Washington's message.

"I don't think we can draw any real conclusion at this stage as to whether our signals are being correctly understood," said Chester Crocker, Assistant Secretary of State for Africa and chief architect of U.S. policy there.

"The signal is that there is no debate in this country about apartheid... the only debate is about how to encourage its demise," Crocker told Reuters.

"There is no American support for the status quo... we want to see it ended and ended now."

Nonetheless, Washington has not set a deadline on its calls for "concrete implementation" of a series of reforms announced in recent weeks by South African President P.W. Botha.

"The clock that's basically ticking here is a South African clock not an American one..." Crocker said. "The real answer is that it's up to the South Africans themselves."

The main impact so far of Reagan's sanctions, mainly symbolic moves to curtail bank loans and exports, has been to stave off more serious, punitive economic action by Congress.

The sanctions may have effectively resolved the South Africa debate for the rest of this year, but the anti-apartheid bill could be revived in January after Congress's Christmas recess if reforms have not been furthered, a congressional source said.

Reagan reversed his long-held opposition to sanctions and imposed his own on the same day the Senate was due to vote on a package of stronger measures, a move critics say was calculated to avoid a politically damaging defeat and defuse growing public pressure for a change in U.S. policy.

"I believe the sanctions were designed to try and push this issue aside," said a spokesman for TransAfrica, the group organising daily protests outside the South African embassy.

"We firmly believe the Reagan administration supports the South African regime and is more concerned with preventing Communism in the area than ending apartheid," he said.

The congressional source said he believed administration officials "really want to get away from the focus on South Africa" to allow Reagan to push ahead with pet domestic programmes such as a mammoth tax reform plan.

Critics also charged that the administration has been embarrassed by recent South African raids into Angola and its violation of a U.S.-brokered peace pact with Mozambique.

Crocker decried U.S.-South Africa policy was on the back burner. But he stressed that while the U.S. wanted to see apartheid ended, it mattered very much how this happened.

"We're not interested in supporting scenarios that will simply lead to the destabilisation of everybody and with no promise for a better future," he said. "But we believe it's very urgent indeed that we see these commitments translated into action because the alternative is a scenario which gets worse not better."

The commitments announced by Botha included plans to consider citizenship for millions of blacks living in so-called tribal homelands, abolishing pass laws that control where blacks can live and work and giving blacks a role on the President's Council, an official advisory body.

No action has been taken on the reforms, no progress has been made on talks with black leaders and a state of emergency is still in force in 36 areas.

Crocker, asked whether he believed the U.S. sanctions had contributed to prospects for change in South Africa, replied: "I'm not going to say that we've played a role at all... but I wouldn't argue for a minute that our positions have led the government to do things it otherwise wasn't going to do."

Crocker stressed that Reagan's

sanctions were meant as a signal of U.S. displeasure and not to damage the South African economy. They simply formalised existing commercial practice.

Reagan banned loans to the South African government from U.S. banks which had already voluntarily reduced lending to a trickle, and barred the sale to South African security agencies of U.S. computer equipment, largely covered by a American companies' refusal to supply agencies which enforce apartheid.

He restricted exports of nuclear technology that could be used for military purposes. The Carter administration had banned the sale of most nuclear equipment in the late 1970s.

A ban last week on imports of kruggerand gold coins may hurt, but sales were down to \$88 million in the first half of this year from \$2.6 billion in the same 1982 period.

Gary Hufbauer, a private economist and sanctions expert, said more impact derived from decisions by several U.S. states and dozens of cities and universities to divest from American firms doing business in South Africa.

Many U.S. firms have reduced or sold their operations there and the latest commerce department figures show that direct U.S. investment in South Africa has fallen from \$2.6 billion in 1981 to \$1.8 billion last year.

U.S. 'regrets' that hijacking of plane was 'necessary'

(Continued from page 1)

As anti-American rioting broke out on the streets of Cairo, Mr. Mubarak warned it could take a long time to repair relations with the United States.

"It is a very strange and regrettable action that a friendly country would carry out such an act of piracy against another friendly country," he told reporters. "Do they hope we can get over this that easily? It will take a long time."

As he spoke, a protest by thousands of students against the United States and Israel erupted into ugly clashes as demonstrators threw stones at police, who used teargas and batons to disperse them.

At least 15 students were injured and more than a dozen detained.

On Sunday, the Achille Lauro left Port Said, where it docked Thursday after the hijack was over. The hijacked Egyptian plane also returned to Cairo on Sunday.

According to sources quoted by various news agencies, the luxury liner was heading for its home port

in Genoa, Italy, from where it began its fateful voyage on Oct. 3. It carried only the crewmembers when it left Port Said on Sunday.

The Egyptian Boeing 737 landed in Cairo and at 13.15 local time it was not possible to determine who travelled aboard the aircraft from Rome to the Egyptian capital. However, reports from Italy said it was carrying six Egyptian security men and the crew who were on board when it was hijacked by U.S. warplanes early Friday.

In Tel Aviv, an Israeli airline officer said Sunday that the Egyptian pilot of the hijacked plane was "angry and excited" when he radioed that he was being intercepted by U.S. fighter jets on Friday.

Dror Harish, a first officer with the Israeli El Al Airlines, said in a telephone interview that he was on a flight from Spain to Israel on Thursday night when he overheard the Egyptian pilot message the control tower in Athens, Greece.

Harish said he was just south of Crete at the time while the Egyptian Boeing 737, carrying the sea pirates of the Achille Lauro, was 160 kilometres to the north of the Greek island.

"Two fighter jets are forcing me to fly to Italy," Harish quoted the Egyptian pilot as messaging the Athens control tower. Harish described the pilot's voice as "angry and excited."

The Egyptian did not immediately comply with the interceptors' demand, and flew around in circles for several minutes until the Athens controller asked him what he was doing and he repeated his earlier message, said Harish.

"If anyone thinks the Egyptians knew about this plan in advance, well the pilot certainly didn't. There was such genuine anger,

tension and excitement in his voice," Harish said.

He also said that the Egyptian pilot told the Athens tower that he thought the F-14s were Italian.

Harish, who is also a pilot in the Israeli air force, said the Egyptian had little choice but to follow the American planes to Sicily. "An F-14 can play with a Boeing 737 like a cat with a mouse," he said.

Kuwait said Sunday the U.S. hijack of the Egyptian plane was not justified and would bring more violence and instability to the Middle East.

"The American action is unnecessary and unjustified... it brings more violence and instability at a time when all efforts are made to find a just peace in our region," a Foreign Ministry official said.

Regent calls on Europe to help efforts

(Continued from page 1)

growing energy requirements. The Arab World, on the other hand must export its oil to generate the necessary revenues to finance its economic and social development programmes.

To accelerate this process and enhance its prospects, an atmosphere of peace and stability is of paramount importance. Prosperity cannot be achieved in an environment of conflict and turmoil. Only peaceful conditions are conducive to the free flow of oil from the Arab World, which in turn will

allow the import of the necessary goods and expertise to facilitate the processes of change in our area.

It is here, we believe, that Europe can play a most useful role in contributing to the attainment of the just and lasting peace that our region demands and our people deserve.

His Majesty King Hussein in his recent address to the United Nations General Assembly, stressed the need to act decisively, and to act now. It is time that peace prevailed in this important region, for

the good of its own people and the rest of the world — a prospect for which we have waited far too long.

We can no longer afford to waste life, resources or time. Now is the time to work together for a brighter future marked by effort, constructive action and positive achievement.

Europe has recognised its responsibilities and expressed its readiness to make a contribution. I don't have to remind any of you here of the significance of the Venice Declaration of June 1980.

European efforts are urgently required to reverse the deteriorating situation. Unfortunately, extremist political tendencies are growing and the efforts of people of good will should be mobilised to halt these trends. Peace alone, can provide the conditions for continuous development and construction. Peace in our region moreover, is vital to Europe's security and well-being.

We look to you to support our efforts for the attainment of this most noble of goals.

Handwritten signature: *Dr. Nayef S. Zubi*

Iraqi scholar explores concept of Islamic justice

By Grace Halsell

WASHINGTON — For more than 30 years, Majid Khadduri has researched, taught and written on Arabic and Islamic issues — and from the beginning he distinguished himself as a seminal thinker and innovator. For example: — He established one of the first Middle East study centres in America — this at Johns Hopkins University.

— He was the first to introduce into the curricula of any American university a course on the Sharia law. (Other universities soon followed his initiative).

— He was the first to write a definitive paper on human rights in Islam — doing so while a member of the Iraqi delegation to the San Francisco United Nations Conference in 1945.

Now, 40 years later, Professor Khadduri has again written on this subject, making it an important section in his latest book, *The Islamic Concept of Justice*, published by the Johns Hopkins University Press. "I cover the subject of human rights in an appendix because it cannot be a chapter, it is wider than justice," Dr. Khadduri said. In this section he explains how Islamic justice compares with Western justice, and how it relates to the United Nations' human rights declaration. "One reason I wanted to write this book was to help people in the West understand more about Islamic law and justice," he said.

Now recognised as one of the world's pre-eminent authorities on Islamic law and jurisprudence,

Khadduri, a Johns Hopkins professor from 1949 to 1970 and director of the university's centre for Middle East Studies from 1960 until 1980, says his latest book represents a "summation of a life's study and reflection on Islamic political, legal, ethical and social philosophy." He began work on the book in 1970, while teaching a course in Islamic law at Oxford University, then set that work aside to write three other books.

In 1980, after becoming professor emeritus, Khadduri turned his full attention to *The Islamic Concept of Justice* which reviewers have acclaimed as important for scholars of Islam as well as for political scientists who want to study Islam and its impact on the Middle East.

After the Prophet died, Professor Khadduri says, Muslims began a political debate on the ways a ruler would or should be just. "Between philosophy and theology there is a great deal of interrelationship, and so I have chapters on ethical justice and legal justice. And then I deal with justice among the states. And I devote the last chapter to social justice and in what ways social justice was considered."

With the exception of Turkey, "All the Muslim countries follow in part Islamic law. Some have a different system, for instance Egypt. Syria and Iraq have other modern legislation which originally had nothing to do with Islam. They just took it from the West. But now there is a trend for Islamising or unifying the legal system in a way so they can re-

introduce Islamic law and reenact the code of law, such as civil law and commercial law and penal law. The tendency is now to have a more uniform system by bringing the codes of law that have their own legal systems and adapt it to each Islamic country.

"There is a civil law in Egypt that was adopted as a combination of Islamic and Western element," he continued. "Syria adopted it after Egypt, in 1949, then Iraq. Some countries are considering readopting penal law."

"Egypt is among the first to bring the penal law within the framework of Islamic law," Khadduri said. "It hasn't been enacted. I was in Cairo gathering more material for this book and they have been considering penal laws."

"If Egypt does it and does it well, I think it would be a good model for others. It is now being debated. When I saw President Mubarak, he said, 'Let them work it out.' He did not want to enter into the details because if he did it would be exploited for political reasons."

Islamic economists are today engaged in heated debate over the components of a system of economic justice. Professor Khadduri does not explore this subject at length. This may be because his book is more an academic endeavour rather than a pragmatic blueprint written for use by economists and politicians or by those who control systems of government.

However, this question — can Islam work economically — is

being raised in many countries today, with Sudan being the latest country to apply an Islamic economic system. The debate continues in official circles and among people who are members of Islamic groups. While these matters are not dealt with specifically in Khadduri's book, he touches on some of the issues, such as interest. He also touches on the system of taxation, which if of paramount importance in the current debate on an Islamic system of economics.

Among Dr. Khadduri's thirteen other books are four which deal with his native country, Iraq. They are: *The Government of Iraq, Independent Iraq, Republican Iraq and Socialist Iraq*.

Two of his most popular books, *Arab Personalities in Politics (1973)* and *Arab Personalities in Politics (1981)*, deal with leaders of the Arab world before and after World War II, as well as some of the contemporaries. In personal interviews, he sought to capture the personality of the leader, including his philosophical or ideological orientation; what he hoped to achieve and how he wanted to run the country. For half a century, Khadduri has studied behind-the-scenes thinkers who influenced Arab political thought, as well as leaders who managed to reach positions of authority such as Gamal Abdul Nasser, Nuri Al Said and King Faisal.

"I have known all of them," he says of the Arab leaders. "And talked with each of them more than once. I sat talking with Nas-

ser, he and I alone, and on another occasion, it was with a group. He was the only one with whom I met only twice, the others, a half dozen or more times."

Among the Arab leaders the most admired were Nuri Al Said of Iraq and King Faisal of Saudi Arabia. "Although they are different, they fit my description of a leader who is both idealistic and practical — a pragmatist. In the case of Nasser he was a great leader, very popular among the people. He tried to seize opportunities. He capitalised on circumstances and he tried to play off one great power against the other, but this worked against him in the long run. He did not really have a well-rounded approach to international relations. Also he failed badly on the home front."

And who would be, in Dr. Khadduri's view, an ideal leader today? He would have Nasser's popularity, Nuri Al Said's insight and vision and King Faisal's integrity and care for values.

As regards the Arab-Israeli conflict, Khadduri, who assisted in drafting the letter sent to President Roosevelt on the Palestinian issue in 1943, advocates that Arabs today follow what he terms "empirical idealism." Theoretically, he explains, "the Arabs must get their rights, but the question is how? The Arabs should always keep in mind a kind of strategy and try to work toward it by taking practical steps, with gradual gains."

In his view of "empirical idealism" the first step is to keep Israel under control, that is, from fur-



Majid Khadduri

ther expansion. "This is the most important challenge the Arabs are facing: not to give it any opportunity to expand. And until the conditions are right for a Palestinian state, any attempt to push this is not going to work. All the major powers support Israel, and they base this on their interests."

Khadduri, who helped establish the University of Libya, today has the pleasure of watching many of his graduates carry on his work in research and teaching, as well as serving in high governmental posts. A former student, Eli Salem, who served as foreign minister of Lebanon, says he will not forget the inspiration Khadduri instilled in him and countless others. "He gave us the feeling that we were all destined for great careers... He treated all his students as if each were a special prize," Arab News.

Randa Habibi's Corner

For love of children

HOW MANY school buses follow safety rules? I wonder. If you drive in the streets of Amman at the end of a school day you would realise that something is wrong. Heads and arms of children poke out of the windows of buses, while drivers exceed the speed limit.

I have never seen a school bus that did not have a child or two sitting in the front seat near the driver. It is dangerous to seat children on the front seat of a car, let alone a bus.

Furthermore, the number of children in a school bus is often greater than the bus capacity; the result is that children stand in the aisle risking a fall at any curve.

While bus fees for all schools are high enough, I wonder why these institutions try to make more money by taking in more children than the bus could accommodate.

I often see in the streets kindergarten buses overloaded with children. Literally piled up, the children are sometimes accompanied by a teacher, but mostly they are not.

This state of affairs is dangerous and should not be allowed to continue. I recommend that a special committee for school buses be set up. Such a committee should specify the basic safety rules including the maximum number of children per bus, fees, criteria for drivers and so forth.

Police, then, should be very strict with those buses and should immediately stop whoever is breaking the rules.

It was not long ago that two children, returning home from their kindergarten, were killed by a stupid bus accident. The investigation revealed that the school bus driver was speeding.

Let us avoid more accidents and save the lives of innocent children.

The man who has given away \$12 b

Ryoichi Sasakawa is not exactly a household name. But this 86-year-old Japanese has been in the presence of the Queen Elizabeth, the ex-President Carter, has shared a banquet with Mrs. Thatcher — and has given away \$12 billion in charity. Who is the man? Jarek Martin explains.

TOKYO — Here is a summer quiz. Which one man is the common denominator between the following: the World Games at Crystal Palace, London, and gambling on speedboat racing in Japan, between Harold Wilson and Edward Heath; David Owen and Robert Maxwell; Ronald Reagan and Jimmy Carter; President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines and Olof Palme, between the World Anti-Communist League and the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children?

The answer is not exactly a global household name, though he aspires to be one. Ryoichi Sasakawa is the bouncy 86-year-old son of a sake brewer from Osaka. By his own accounting, which cannot be disputed, he has over the past 40 years given away \$12 billion in charity. He may well be the world's biggest single "philanthropist."

Inside Japan, on which his most magnificent donations have been bestowed, Mr. Sasakawa enjoys a dual reputation. He is known both for his generosity and his politics for Ryoichi Sasakawa was a prominent Japanese nationalist in the 1930s, when he led his own black-shirted party and even once flew to hear Mussolini.

He was interned, though never prosecuted, by the U.S. occupation force as a "class A war criminal," and he is widely seen today as one of the biggest bankrollers of the admittedly ineffective but noisy right-wing fringe groups in Japan.

In his spacious office on top of the Japan Shipbuilding Industries Association, which features the Sasakawa Hall and a statue outside of Mr. Sasakawa carrying his mother on his back, he proclaims a simple motto. "We are," he says — juggling a couple of "energy" magnetic balls in his hand rather like Captain Jaeger — "all brothers and sisters."

During the past year he has added an awful lot of Britons to his family. "I have a close feeling to Britain," he explains, "because of our similar backgrounds, being island states, dependent on trade, and because Great Britain was one of our teachers."

In any case, he adds, it is about time that Japan "donates back some of our export profits."

So in May a new charitable foundation was registered in London — the Sasakawa-Great Britain Foundation, with initial capital, all from Mr. Sasakawa, of about £10 million (\$13.9 million) at current rates of exchange.

It has a glittering list of U.K. officers: its patron is Lord Wilson, of Rievaulx; the chairman of its managing council is Mr. Robert Maxwell; and other members of the council include Dr. David Owen, Mr. James Prior, Mr. Edward Canna, Mr. Angus Ogilvy, Mr. Gerald Ronson and Sir John Butterfield, Master of Downing College, Cambridge.

Mr. Sasakawa himself explains that Mr. Maxwell was most helpful in setting it up.

But this is not the full extent of Mr. Sasakawa's British connection. Last year, he donated £500,000 to the NSPCC; this year he was present at the opening at Berkeley, Gloucestershire, of a memorial museum — which he had underwritten — to Edward Jenner, the conqueror of smallpox.

He gave £1 million to Oxford University and has agreed to cover any deficit incurred by the recent World Games (which feature those sports not in the Olympics). His post-war fortune has been built on gambling on speedboat races (an earlier prewar one was as a commodity dealer). Set up in the 1950s, Japan's speedboat racing

was seen by the government as a fund-raising device, rather like contemporary lotteries, and the initial and continuing monopoly was given to Mr. Sasakawa's organisation.

He says its net profit has averaged about \$100 million a year for 30 years and all of this, plus large amounts from his personal fortune, have been donated to charity — hence the \$12 billion figure.

More important than where the money comes from is where it goes and with what, if any, strings. As Mr. Sasakawa concedes, not every institution offered his charity has accepted it.

He blames on "Left-wingers and Communists who make propaganda saying that Sasakawa money is dirty money." He adds: "I don't want to give money to organisations which are influenced by Left-wingers and Communists." Among those who have turned him down are the Tokyo-based United Nations University and the more humble Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan, neither of which are actually hotbeds of Marxism (your correspondent is currently president of the latter and his wife works for the former).

Mr. Sasakawa is also widely rumoured to have tried repeatedly to make large donations to the Nobel Committees. He denies this and denies the frequently-heard suggestion that he desperately wants to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize (he is, however, the recipient of numerous other awards — many, like the Linus Pauling Medal, carry much prestige and many, not surprisingly, result from his generous gifts).

However, he did help underwrite the Palme Commission on disarmament, which was not exactly of his own political persuasion. Dr. Owen, a commission member, who recently made time in an extremely busy schedule to have lunch with Mr. Sasakawa, is understood to have concluded that Mr. Sasakawa made no attempt to influence commission policy.

For his part, Mr. Sasakawa says he carefully selects to whom he gives money, but then leaves disbursement to the recipients. Yet his friendships with the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, the late Anastasio Somoza of Nicaragua and President Ferdinand Marcos — not to mention some of Japan's most notorious and militaristic — can hardly be completely ignored.

All of which begs an interesting question. If, as he insists, Mr. Sasakawa has no political ulterior motive and if, as he says, he is not weighed down by any sense of past guilt, why and how does he do it? His answer is simple and difficult to argue with: "I give money to do good."

So Mr. Sasakawa has been to royal garden parties and has been placed at least in the vicinity of the Queen. He has shared top table at an NSPCC banquet with Mrs. Thatcher, whom he much admires. He goes jogging with Jimmy Carter in Tokyo.

Critical observers of his technique say he uses contacts to make contacts (Mr. Sasakawa says Mr. Maxwell plays this role for him in the U.K.), often bypassing those institutions (the U.S. State Department, for example, the British Embassy in Tokyo) which might just raise warning flags.

Mr. Sasakawa says that at 86 he now appreciates what money cannot buy — "time and air." It does, of course, buy friends — Financial Times news feature.

Al Hakawati children's production lacks coherent theme

By Said Al Ghazali

THE PLAY *Sharshook* (a winged minotaur) is the most recent production by a new children's group under the sponsorship of the Hakawati theatrical troupe. The play, performed by the 14-member troupe, was first shown at Nuzha Al Hakawati Theatre in Jerusalem on August 16, and was really meant to address adults despite the actors. It was written and produced by Hakawati veteran Radi Shehadeh.

Briefly, the play, which is in nine acts, attempts to narrate what happened to a group of people from Khabsa Village who died many years ago. They are brought to life again in the form of children in order to tell the audience what happened to them before they were shot dead by enemy soldiers. The children, who suffered the troubles of war, want to bring back tranquility to their village. An apparition of the *Sharshook* appears. They see it as a mythological figure prompting them to think that it is their saviour and they build a shrine to it. However, some children consider it the opposite and want to smash it.

Several scenes in the play dealing with sub-topics appear such as the scene with the wonderbox man who projects various kinds of pictures in a box for children's amuse-

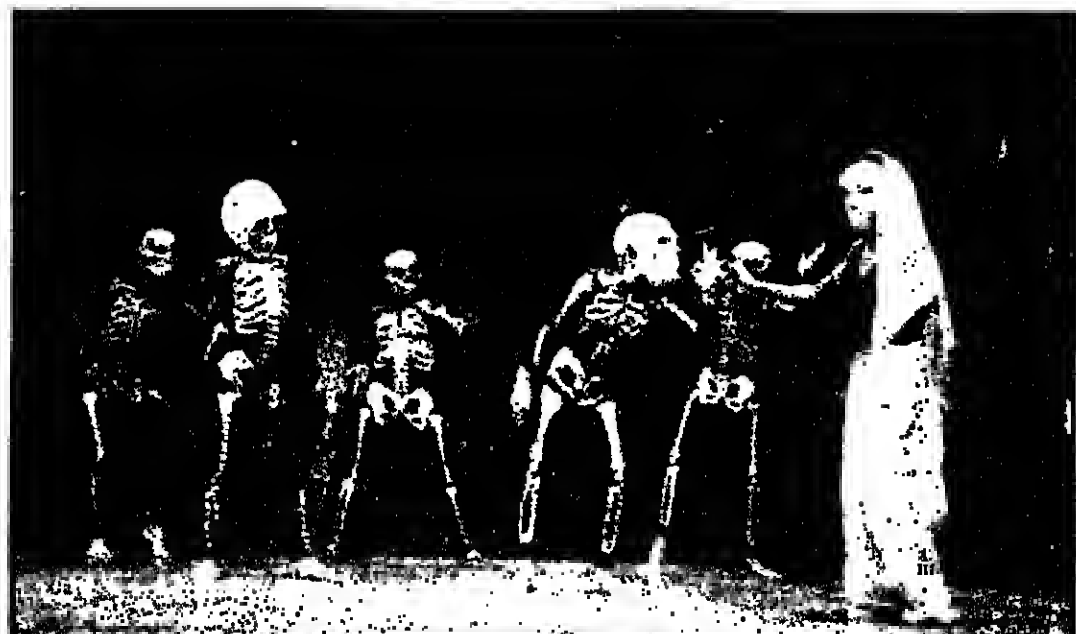
ment. The scene may be meant to reflect a happy village atmosphere. The scene of Abu Nyab, the doctor of sectarianism, reflects a major change in the village, whose inhabitants are now infused with the idea of separating into groups of Muslims, Christians, Jews and Druze. A sectarian atmosphere is thus created. Market scenes reflect bargaining, crowds, exploitation and violence. One scene shows a fight between two men over the removal of sewage from the sewers and drains. A scene involves a sackman, one who puts a sack over his head to hide his identity and then serves as a stool pigeon for the authorities.

This is apparently the main unifying scene upon which the whole story is constructed. The children are shot dead in this scene and the Hakawati storyteller narrates the sackman's story. It turns out he is not killed but faces worse than death. In fact, he is tortured to death by two men who interrogated him. The last scene shows two groups of children raising Israeli and Palestinian flags while playing on a seesaw. The war then continues. End of story.

The problem with the play is that the theme is vaguely shown and the audience does not know what is the importance or relevance of all these scenes that

must be designed to contribute to the theme of the play. Eventually we realise that the theme is division among the children over how they should react to the *Sharshook*. Shehadeh justified the lack of unity in the action of the play by saying, "It is a modern presentation. The audience must see their own reality reflected in these scenes." He admitted that many scenes could have been added. The only unification elements in these scenes are the *Sharshook* and the presence of a man dressed in black costume with white skeletons.

There are some technical elements which make the play distinct. The reincarnation of the village children helps the audience enter into the world of fantasy and arouses their imagination so that the first two scenes are really fantastic. One shows the children being reborn in plastic cylinder that descends from the roof of the theatre. It is followed by a skeleton disco dance. The movement of the children seemed perfect in this scene. However, this was due to the impression created by the children wearing black gowns upon which the phosphoric designs of skeletons are fixed. The black light made the skeletons brighter and helped add vitality to their dance.



The use of symbols adds to the play's sophistication. The winged minotaur is the main one. The strange TV fixed on a tower named "The Popularity Licensed Overt Propaganda (PLOP)" is a technique employed in the play to broadcast short political messages and vague slogans. Perhaps the similarity in name and the way the machine works encourages the audience to consider the machine as reference to the PLO. If this is

so, does this mean that the PLO is sloganeering?

The sets, lighting and sound were helpful for the children in the play rehearsal. Without these techniques the children would not have been able to act. The scenes appear unrelated, however, because of their delay in changing clothes. Shehadeh said that this particular defect was solved by making them change at the same time while other children would pro-

ceed to act in the next scene.

It was difficult to hear the children's conversation and to comprehend what was going on. The children simply need more training to know how to act, move and converse. However, some children showed talent and were able to communicate to the audience such as those who played the Hakawati storyteller, Abu Nyab and the wonderbox man — Al Fajr, Jerusalem Palestinian Weekly.

Belgrade rejects U.S. request to arrest Abbas

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Andreotti, in turn, defended Italy's commitment to fighting terrorism and said that while the problems created by the hijacking were difficult, "the situation would be much more serious if the ship were still in the hands of the hijackers."

The Italian official had been instrumental in arranging for the PLO to help negotiate an end to the two-day hijacking last week. Mr. Abbas played a major role in defusing the crisis.

Mr. Abbas, a close associate of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, was one of two Palestinians who accompanied the hijackers on a plane that was intercepted by American warplanes after leaving Egypt Thursday night and forced down in Sicily.

The Palestinian news agency, Wafa, reported on Sunday it was after receiving a letter from PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat on Saturday. Italian Premier Bettino Craxi decided to allow Mr. Abbas to leave.

Mr. Arafat, in his letter to Mr. Craxi, asked that the Egyptian plane which took four Palestinians hijackers to Italy be returned with all its passengers, Wafa said in Tunis.

Mr. Arafat also warned against possible consequences of the U.S. decision to force down the Egyptian plane.

Mr. Arafat reminded of what he said was "diplomatic immunity" in Arabic, Islamic and non-aligned countries of Mr. Abbas.

Mr. Arafat expressed his fear that this "act of piracy" will lead to "reactions... very difficult to control."

Italian newspapers Sunday carried headlines on what they called the unprecedented crisis in U.S.-Italian relations.

"In 40 years of the Italian republic something of this nature has never been seen," said Tunis newspaper *La Stampa* (See page 2).

Shortly after the PLO official

left the country Saturday. Mr. Rabb delivered what was described by Italian officials as a strongly worded protest note.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told the Associated Press: "We maintain that we made a complete analysis of the request" by the United States but that judicial authorities had determined there were no legal grounds to hold Mr. Abbas.

Italian newspapers said the government regarded Mr. Abbas as a "hijacked passenger" on the Egyptian 737 that was forced down by U.S. Sixth Fleet planes.

Asked if Washington was angry with Italy, Mr. Rabb replied: "Well I hope that our relationships will continue... I hope that all relationships will continue on the great basis of friendship that we have."

A representative of the PLO in Belgrade refused to disclose Mr. Abbas' whereabouts or plans. Upon his arrival Saturday night, Mr. Abbas was driven away in a car bearing the license plate of the PLO mission, which has diplomatic status in Yugoslavia.

"I don't think anything will come out of the American request for his extradition," said the representative, who did not want his name reported.

Yugoslavia has an extradition treaty with the United States, and cultivates good relations with both superpowers. But it supports the PLO and has no diplomatic relations with Israel.

The official news agency Tanjug, reporting the arrival of Mr. Abbas, noted that he spent "several hours of negotiations" with the hijackers and that these negotiations were "successful and a greater tragedy was thus prevented."

U.S. Justice Department spokesman Patrick Korten said a U.S. district judge in Washington issued a warrant for Mr. Abbas on Friday charging the Palestinian with "piracy, hostage-taking,"

and "conspiracy" to commit both crimes.

Implying that Yugoslavia would not comply with the U.S. request, a government spokesman said in Belgrade:

"Mohammad Abbas is a member of the Executive Committee of the PLO. We have good relations with the PLO, and we support the Palestinian cause. You can draw your own conclusions."

"You will be informed about the Yugoslav reply (to the U.S. request) in due time. The request came only during the night. You will know something today or tomorrow," the government spokesman said Sunday.

A spokeswoman for Yugoslavia's Information Ministry told reporters that Mr. Abbas, head of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), had arrived in Yugoslavia a free man after his release by Italy.

She said Mr. Abbas was free to come and go as he wished.

After arriving at Belgrade's Surcin airport Saturday night, the tall, heavily-built Abbas slipped away immediately from waiting reporters and his whereabouts were a mystery on Sunday.

Western diplomatic sources said communist, but non-aligned, Yugoslavia would not want the Abbas affair to complicate otherwise good ties with Washington where Prime Minister Milka Plavcic paid a highly successful visit last May.

At the same time, Yugoslavia supports the Arab cause in the Middle East and recognises the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Mr. Abbas on Saturday accused the U.S. government of conducting "state terrorism" by sending navy jets to intercept the Egyptian plane taking the hijackers to Tunis after they had left the Achille Lauro.

Speaking to Reuters in Dubrovnik, he said he intended to draw up plans to secure the release

of the four Palestinian hijackers held in Italy.

A burly figure wearing a dark blue safari suit, Mr. Abbas, spoke to Reuters at Dubrovnik airport on Yugoslavia's Adriatic coast during a stopover on his way to Belgrade.

When Mr. Abbas and another senior PLO official flew in later to Belgrade, they were prevented from speaking to waiting reporters by resident PLO representatives and Yugoslav police.

Mr. Abbas and his entourage slipped out of a back door leading on to the airport tarmac and disappeared from sight.

"The American government's act of state terrorism gives us the right and encouragement to use all means in our liberation struggle," Mr. Abbas said, referring to the U.S. hijacking of the Egyptian plane.

In Dubrovnik, Mr. Abbas looked weary but relaxed and confident as he spoke.

"They (the U.S. government) are real terrorists. We use hand guns in our liberation struggle. They use fighter planes and aircraft carriers," he said.

"But we will continue our struggle now more fiercely. We will liberate our comrades (the four hijackers)."

Asked about the interception, Mr. Abbas said: "They (the U.S. jets) fired warning shots and missiles on both sides of our plane. They appeared determined to shoot the plane down. What could we do?"

He would not disclose his immediate plans but said he intended resting "for a couple of days."

"It was difficult to get out of Italy. I practically had to escape from there. I am very tired but I have to recover soon and think of how to liberate our captured comrades," he said.

"We will continue to fight the American government but not the American people," Mr. Abbas added.

Howe meets delegation today

(Continued from page 1)

that if we are to have a chance of bringing to an end the continuous conflict between Israel and the Palestinian people... we have to encourage those men who favour negotiation and moderation and who repudiate violence."

Mr. Howe said a solution to the Middle East conflict must be "on the basis that Israel's right to exist and to security is accepted without question, and on the basis that the Palestinians' right to self-determination is accepted."

The Board of Deputies of British Jews is planning a protest rally here Monday to be addressed by an Israeli cabinet minister, the Israeli ambassador to Britain and Britain's chief rabbi.

But Robert Adley, a lawmaker in the ruling Conservative Party and chairman of the bipartisan British-Jordanian Parliamentary Group, sent a message to Mr. Howe criticising "the welter of Zionist propaganda."

Mr. Adley said: "The state terrorism practised by the Israelis is no way forward, save for a state of permanent conflict in the Middle East."

"Sonner or later, Israel and the PLO must sit down and talk... Sir Geoffrey is absolutely right to talk to the PLO as the legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people."

Mr. Arafat said the United States had provided Israel with satellite maps of pictures of the PLO headquarters location and had helped refuse Israeli aircraft.

Mr. Arafat earlier held talks with Sudan's leader General Abdul Rahman Swaraddah and described them as positive.

Abbas: Hijack was accident

(Continued from page 1)

In an interview with the Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) in Belgrade, Mr. Abbas said on Sunday two of the hijackers had been members of his wing of the PLF before the PLO evacuated its base in Lebanon under Israel's 1982 invasion. But he gave no details as to who the others are.

Mr. Abbas told KUNA he was asked by the PLO chairman to help resolve the hijack saga because he knew "a number of the hijackers."

He said the hijackers were headed to Ashdod. "They were forced to change their plans and seize the ship so they themselves are not seized."

"If they had not done that, the Italian crew would have arrested them and turned them over to the authorities at the next port of call which was Ashdod," Mr. Abbas said.

He said the weapons reached the hijackers "while they were aboard the ship," insisting they had no arms when they boarded the cruiser at Genoa.

Rain halts Czech drive for 3rd straight title

NAGOYA, Japan (R) — Federation Cup holders Czechoslovakia were poised to win their third successive title in the women's team tennis championship when their final against second seeds the United States was suspended because of rain Sunday.

Czechoslovakia's Helena Sukova had made up for an erratic week by taking the opening singles against Elise Burgin 6-3, 6-7, 6-4 and world number three Hana Mandlikova had moved into an impressive 7-5, 3-0 lead over Kathy Jordan before the rain fell.

The defending champions should clinch an unassailable 2-0 lead when the final resumes Monday. Sukova, ranked ninth in the world but liable to uneven patches, had won two and lost two singles ties before Sunday and was the weak link in her country's 2-1 win over Australia in last year's final.

But Sunday she was serving and volleying with confidence against Burgin, playing in her first Federation Cup. After sweeping through the first set and taking a 4-1 lead in the second, Sukova's nerve held as her left-handed opponent rallied to take the set in an 8-6 tiebreak.

The Czechoslovak number two

kept up the pressure at the net in the final set which she won on the first service break.

In the second singles, the 15th-ranked Jordan matched Mandlikova shot for shot until the 12th game. But, serving to stay in the first set, she could find no reply to two blistering service returns and was finally defeated by a superb lob.

Mandlikova raced ahead in the second set, the break coming in the second game when the American double-faulted after four deuces.

U.S. captain Tom Gorman refused to give up hope of a reversal of his team's fortunes tomorrow. "I think Kathy could beat anybody the way she played today. But Hana did not make errors," he said.

The United States earlier reached the final by completing a 2-1 win over Australia in a semi-final match halted for bad light Saturday.

The second-seeded Americans took the court again almost immediately for their final clash with holders Czechoslovakia, who Saturday beat fourth-seeded Bulgaria 2-1.

The American pair Elise Burgin and Kathy Jordan came from behind to beat Australia's Wendy Turnbull and Liz Smylie 6-6, 6-1, 6-4 in the decisive doubles.

Play in the doubles was halted Saturday at 2-2 in the third set after Burgin beat Anne Minter 6-3, 6-4 in the opening singles, and Turnbull evened the match by beating Jordan 6-4, 6-7, 7-5.

It was the 13th encounter between the two nations in the Federation Cup with the Americans now leading by eight wins to five. But they did lose to the Australians in last year's semi-finals.

Burgin, a 23-year-old left-hander making her Federation Cup debut, put the Americans on the victory path Sunday by winning her service game to give the U.S. a 3-2 lead.

Jordan with a flashing return broke Smylie's serve after the Australian girl had had three double-faults, and then held her own in the seventh game for 5-2. The tie was won and lost.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Nelson unleashes knockout punch

BIRMINGHAM, England (R) — Azumah Nelson of Ghana took just 143 seconds Saturday night to retain his World Boxing Council (WBC) featherweight title, knocking out local favourite Pat Cowdell of Britain in the first round. Nelson unleashed an aswining left uppercut which hit Cowdell on the point of the chin. The 32-year-old went down and as referee Octavio Meyran of Mexico knelt beside him there was no doubt the fight was over. "It was a terrible punch. Cowdell was unconscious. Right on the point of the chin. Just the one," the referee told Reuters, shaking his head in stunned amazement.

Anger wins S. African Open

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Unseeded American Matt Anger won the South African Open tennis tournament Sunday, grinding down fourth-seeded American Brad Gilbert for a 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 victory. Gilbert had an ice pack applied to his right shoulder at the start of the fourth set, but Anger appeared able to dominate even an uninjured Gilbert. The 22-year-old Californian relied on deadly overheads, accurate lobs and enough aggression at the net to keep Gilbert off balance. Gilbert double-faulted six times and his second serve was weak.

Annacone is victor in Brisbane

BRISBANE (R) — Top seed Paul Annacone added force to his argument that he will soon be worthy of a U.S. Davis Cup team place when he routed New Zealander Kelly Evernden in whirlwind fashion in the Brisbane Classic tennis final Sunday. Annacone, whose mixture of aggression and finesse has propelled him from 94th to 18th in the world rankings in nine months, shrugged off a bout of flu to post a 6-3, 6-3 victory in just 65 minutes for the winner's cheque of \$16,000.

Belgian first in Australian race

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Belgian Fred Van Der Venet, who missed the Los Angeles Olympic Games because of injury, Sunday won the Australian Marathon in the second fastest time of the races history. Almost 5,000 runners started in the 42-kilometre race from Frankston to Melbourne with the 32-year-old Van Der Venet taking the lead at the 15 km mark. Early pacemaker Steve Austin of Victoria pulled out after 25 kms, leaving Van Der Venet 100 metres clear of 30-year-old Scotsman Fraser Clyne. "When Austin withdrew my only thought was to keep going at the same pace," Van Der Venet said. The Belgian was on target to break American Bill Rogers course record of 2 hours, 11 minutes and 8 seconds until the 30-km mark, but with no one to push him, he had to be content with the second fastest time of 2:12:35.

Schultz worthy of Olympic gold

BUDAPEST (R) — American Mark Schultz dispelled any lingering doubt over the merit of his Olympic gold medal by winning the under-82 kg class at the World Freestyle Wrestling Championships Saturday night. Schultz, whose 1984 Los Angeles title was won in the absence of East European fighters because of the Soviet-bloc boycott of the Games, scored a 10-5 win over Alexander Nanev of Bulgaria.

Juventus maintains perfect form

ROME (R) — Michel Platini recovered his goal-scoring touch Sunday as European Cup holders Juventus beat city rivals Torino 2-1 to stay top of the Italian soccer league with a perfect record of six wins in six matches.

French international captain Platini, who has been top scorer in the Italian first division for the last three seasons, had suffered a barren spell in the league until Sunday when he scored Juventus' second goal with a typically powerful free kick in the 28th minute.

Juventus dominated the derby match in front of a 60,000 crowd and swept in front after only four minutes when former Torino striker Aldo Serena touched home a corner by full-back Antonio Cabrini.

Torino, technically at home, fought to stay in contention and were unlucky to have an early reply by Enzo Rossi ruled out for a foul.

They finally pulled one goal back five minutes before the interval when Brazilian midfielder Junior emulated Platini's achievement with another brilliant free kick.

Milan beat Como 1-0 to stay in second place three points behind Juventus, but Fiorentina, Napoli and Roma all lost ground in the race for the championship.

England midfielder Ray Wilkins set up Milan's goal with a free kick to Filippo Galli in the 33rd minute. Como have yet to win a game this season.

Fiorentina and Napoli drew 0-0

while Roma lost 1-0 at Avellino whose goalkeeper Nicola Di Leo made to brilliant second half saves to stop shots by Brazilian Toninho Cerezo and Italian international Bruno Conti.

Internazionale made a shaky start to their match at newly-promoted Bari and found themselves 1-0 down in the 40th minute when defender Giovanni Loseto scored.

But they romped back after the interval with three goals in 20 minutes from Marco Tardelli, following a corner by Sandro Altobelli. West German striker Karl-Heinz Rummenigge — his sixth in as many games — and Giuseppe Baresi, who scored with a spectacular shot from outside the penalty area.

Japanese twins share victory in Peking

PEKING (AP) — Japanese twins Shigeru and Takeshi So bolted past Briton Hugh Jones at the 40-kilometre mark Sunday to lead the finish of the Peking International Marathon.

"We were happy to win together," said Shigeru So, who technically crossed the finish line first, although the official time for both 32-year-old brothers was 2 hours, 10 minutes and 23 seconds. His brother told reporters, "I feel I'm 16."

The time broke the previous race record of 2:12:16 set last year by Japan's Hindeki Kita in the fourth marathon race.

Hundreds of thousands of street spectators watched the televised competition, with a total of 234 runners from 17 countries, which started and finished at Peking Workers Stadium.

A Japanese cheering section in the stands roared as the So brothers snatched the finish-line ribbon, with Jones about 50 metres behind.

"They put the boot in at 40 kilometres," said the 29-year-old red-headed Briton, who took third place at 2:10:36. "That's generally the kind of technique the Japanese use."

Jones, who finished 12th in the 1984 Summer Olympics marathon with a time of 2:13:57, had paced the Japanese brothers most of the way and had been barely ahead at the 40-kilometre point of the 41.6-kilometre route around the Chinese capital.

"Although it may not have looked like it to most of the spectators, they were certainly racing each other at the end," Jones said.

Spinks indifferent to loss of light-heavyweight title

NEW YORK (R) — Michael Spinks could not care less about being stripped of his light-heavyweight boxing title and will fight exclusively as a heavyweight, defending the crown he took from Larry Holmes, his manager said Saturday.

"We are going after the big bucks now," manager Butch Lewis told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Headed: "Hell — the last time Michael fought as a light heavy,

we got \$100,000 — that's chump change. We got \$1.1 million for fighting Larry and now the bread is going to flow."

Spinks became the first light-heavyweight champion in history to take the heavyweight title when he defeated Holmes in a close decision in Las Vegas last month.

But last Wednesday the world Boxing Council (WBC) lifted Spink's 175-pound title, ruling he could not top two weight brackets at the same time.

English fans sore losers once again

BIRMINGHAM, England (R) — For the third time in five years drunken English boxing fans Saturday night reacted to the defeat of a local favourite by trying to attack the overseas boxer and his camp.

Seconds after Britain's Pat Cowdell had been knocked out by Ghana's Azumah Nelson in the first round of their 12-round World Boxing Council (WBC) featherweight title bout some spectators threatened to invade the ring to stop Nelson's celebrations with their fists.

As security men tried to control about 300 young fans, who had been drinking heavily all evening, fights broke out in the 10,000 crowd as the few supporters of the Ghanaian were picked on.

Carl King, Nelson's promoter was caught up in the trouble and had to be rescued by former WBC heavyweight champion, 1.90 metre tall, 93 kilos in weight, Tim Witherspoon of the U.S. who held about 20 young fans at bay while King reached the sanctuary of the dressing room.

Witherspoon's opponent in an earlier bout, fellow American Sam Scaff, was visibly shaken by the crowd's anger and his corner man, sporting a black eye, said that he had been thrown to the floor and kicked in the face.

"They are bloody animals. Is this how we get treated when we visit this country?" King's aide told Reuters.

More athletes suspended for drug use

LONDON (R) — Six athletes, including women's high jump world record holder Ludmilla Andonova of Bulgaria, have been suspended for drug offences, the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) announced Monday.

Czechoslovak Zdenka Silhava, the women's discus world record holder, and Remigius Machura,

American field event athletes Gary Wilkly and August Wolf and Cuban women's javelin thrower Mayra Vila completed the list.

The ban of Wolf, fourth in the shot at the 1984 Olympics, was for refusing to give a dope test, while the other five were positively tested at meetings during 1985. No substance was named.

Although the bans are for life the athletes' federations can appeal for them to be lifted after a minimum period of 18 months.

Andonova, who established her world record of 2.07 metres in East Berlin in July 1984, was positively tested at the London Grand Prix meeting at Crystal Palace on July 19.

Wilkly's offence was at the meeting in Monaco on May 11 and 12 and Wolf's at Byrkjelo, Norway, on July 7. Vila, three times a bronze medalist at the World Student Games, gave her positive test in Madrid on June 4.

The bans on Silhava and Machura were previously announced by European officials. They were the first Czechoslovak athletes to be punished for breaking doping rules, having been positively tested at the European Cup final in Moscow last August.

Within the past 12 months the IAAF have suspended six other athletes for drug offences.

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World weighs business approach to foreign aid

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The U.S. administration is awaiting reaction from governments around the world to its proposal that a business approach to foreign aid be used to tempt private banks into increasing loans for financing private debt.

The plan was presented to 149 governments at the annual meeting of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) that ended here last week.

Treasury Secretary James A. Baker asked that over the next three years, British, French, West German and Japanese as well as American banks lend about \$20 billion to 15 major debtors, most in Latin America.

Brazil and Mexico head the list. Mr. A.W. Clausen, the retiring World Bank president, estimates the 15 countries already owe the banks \$300 billion. Many debtors are far behind in their payments and bankers are now lending out no more than they collect.

"They have not increased their lending at all this year," Mr. Clausen told a news conference last week.

"The support for a moderate increase in exposure at this meeting was especially timely," he added.

"Exposure" is a banker's term for the total amount that his bank has lent.

The United States is widely seen as having made two basic changes in policy.

One prior to the IMF-World Bank meeting came when the

Reagan administration dropped its advocacy of a strong dollar and joined with four other major financial governments last month in an accord to drive the price of the dollar down.

If it continues to fall, interests would reduce the amounts developing countries must pay on their massive debts.

The prospect of higher earnings from investment in Latin America itself could also attract the return of some of the funds that Latin Americans have stashed away in the safe havens of the United States and Switzerland.

There also has been praise here for what was seen as a sharp shift by the Ronald Reagan administration.

While the administration stand had focused previously on putting debtor countries in better shape to pay their debts — a process that emphasizes austerity — last week Mr. Baker stressed the problem of increasing the growth and with it the income of debtor countries.

Debtor countries need new money for projects that will produce jobs and income, which in many countries have declined in recent years. The decline has come not only in the poorest areas of Africa where things have been going badly decades, but also in Latin America where people were somewhat better off.

These countries are still poor by U.S., West European or Japanese standards, but have become accustomed to improving rather than declining standards of living.

There have been ominous warnings at this meeting of unrest and disaster.

A large part of the developing world is faced with the frightening prospect of a complete breakdown of the socio-political fabric of civilized societies as we have known them," Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, president of Pakistan's senate and chairman of the bank and fund joint development committee, told one meeting.

The U.S. plan also calls for an increase of \$9 billion in lending by the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank over the same three years. These are banks owned by member governments.

In addition, Mr. Clausen and nearly all the governments want an increase in the money given to the World Bank's International Development Association. This is the "soft loan window" through

which the World Bank makes loans to the poorest countries, such as Haiti and Bangladesh, where the average person lives on an income of \$550 a year or less — under \$2 a day.

Because of their extreme poverty, these countries get 50 years to pay and are charged almost no interest.

Early next year, richer countries, including the United States, are due to meet in Paris to talk about money for this poorest group over the next three years.

For the last three-year period the United States cut its contribution to \$2.25 billion. Only \$9 billion was collected from all donors on the first try, down from \$12 billion for the previous three years.

Mr. W. David Hopper, the World Bank's vice president for South Asia, was asked how much

more is needed this time.

"Much more than we're going to get," he replied.

Success of the U.S. plan depends on the banks and bankers and government figures attending the meeting gave cautious initial support.

Mr. Clausen and others argue that the banks would serve their own interest by lending more money. They say the debtor countries, in order to get it, will have to adopt new austerity policies with the hope of doing better later.

That should put them in better shape to pay the old debts as well as new ones.

Banks are also looking for what Mr. Baker called an easing of the "regulatory climate." This is bankers' jargon for changes in government banking rules that would make it easier to show their stockholders a profit on their international lending.

U.N. Assembly speakers voice concern over 'debt bomb'

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Dismissing the "debt bomb" edged out arms control as the main subject of discussion during the 40th anniversary U.N. General Assembly.

Most of the 137 presidents, premiers, foreign ministers and ambassadors who spoke in the three-week general debate were from developing nations. They emphasized the crushing effect of foreign debt repayment, which eats up their export earnings and leaves little for growth investment.

Other major concerns which surfaced were South Africa's system of racial separation and how to remodel the United Nations to better serve the world.

But the debt bomb even blew one leader out of office during the debate.

Panama's president Nicolas Ardito Baletta told the assembly in September that leader nations should not force debtor nations into the dilemma of repaying loans or satisfying the people's needs.

Two days later, a coalition of military, business and labor leaders dumped him because of the strict austerity programme he had implemented to pay Panama's foreign debt.

Mr. Robert Mugabe, prime minister of Zimbabwe, in a speech read by his foreign minister, referred to the "debt bomb" and said it is "scandalous to expect Africa, a continent that is fighting for its survival, to shoulder a debt burden of 59 per cent of its export earnings."

Peru's president, Mr. Alan Garcia, put a tough choice to the lending nations of the industrialized West, particularly the U.S. government which has been advocating creation of democracies in the Third World.

Latin America, Mr. Garcia said, faces "debt or democracy."

"The foreign debt can never be paid off by any of our countries because the effort to service it on time will keep our democracies trapped in misery and violence," he said.

The president of Brazil, which carries the largest debt of any dev-

elopment nation — \$103 billion — criticized the debt-tightening restrictions imposed on borrowers by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Mr. Jose Sarney said Brazil "will not pay its debts with recession, nor with unemployment nor with hunger."

The foreign minister of Cuba, Mr. Isadora Malmierca, said the answer is for the Western industrial nations to give to developing countries 10-15 per cent of the funds they now spend on arms. He made no such proposal for the Soviet Bloc states.

Dozens of developing-nation leaders called for a dialogue between borrowers and lenders to discuss rescheduling, lower interest rates, longer grace periods and limiting debt repayments to a percentage of export earnings compatible with development needs.

Peru's Garcia has already announced his country will allocate no more than 10 per cent of its export earnings for debt payments. He told the assembly this meant Peru will pay \$340 million on its debt this year instead of the required \$5.5 billion.

Yugoslavian Foreign Minister Rado Dizdarevic said the debt dialogue was necessary to preserve international security.

"Any delay could cause a chain reaction of upheavals and disruptions with far-reaching consequences," he said. "There can be no peace without development and development without peace."

Often debates at the United Nations are dialogues of the deaf. But this year someone seems to be listening.

At the 40th annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, paralleling the U.N. 40th birthday session, the United States introduced a \$29 billion plan to help bail out debt-ridden countries.

U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker, who introduced the plan, said if it were adopted, and if developing countries cooperated by giving free enterprise more emphasis, the United States would "look with favour" on increased

contributions to poor countries through the World Bank, which the Reagan administration has so far refused.

Speakers also addressed two other international concerns.

Virtually every speaker condemned South Africa for its racist apartheid regime and criticized the United States and Britain for dragging their feet on moves to force changes in Pretoria.

Recently, for the first time, the Reagan administration bowed to congressional pressure and imposed limited economic sanctions against South Africa.

Many states noted this and the limited reforms being implemented by Pretoria. Jamaican Minister Oswald Harding called it "a welcome beginning."

But he reflected general international opinion saying "much more will be needed to convince the South African regime."

Another universal theme was a longing for an end to what Indian minister of state, Mr. Khurshed Alam Khan, called "the wasteful and dangerous arms race."

Speeches of the United States' Western allies joined them to the rest of the world welcoming the superpowers' current steps in arms control.

The decision of the United States and the Soviet Union to begin negotiations on global disarmament and space weapons was a "glimmer of hope," said Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti.

Canada's foreign minister, Mr. Joe Clark said the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in November may lead to "practical steps to unlock the nuclear impasse."

All speakers, on this anniversary, agreed that the world is better off with the United Nations, with all its weaknesses, than without it.

"Let us pool our common interests and work for a stronger and more credible United Nations," said Foreign Minister S. Dhanabalan of Singapore. For small countries the U.N. charter "is the closest they could come to obtaining a guarantee for their survival," he said.

GCC, EC ministers meet today for trade talks

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) and the Arab states of the Gulf hold their first high-level talks in Luxembourg Monday in a bid to ease tensions between the two major trading partners.

Diplomats described the talks as a significant step towards defusing a row between the European bloc and the Saudi-led Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) over access for Gulf products to the Common Market, particularly petrochemicals.

The talks at ministerial level follow five years preparation which have seen the priorities of the two sides alter after changes in the Middle East political climate and the growth of Gulf economies, they said.

The two blocs will be represented by their current presidents. Luxembourg Foreign Minister Jacques Poos and Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and top officials.

European Commission officials said the first meeting would be mainly symbolic, underlining a political commitment to closer links between the two groups. It would also open the way towards negotiating a cooperation agreement with the GCC.

The Gulf states are the Community's third biggest market after the United States and the

European Free Trade Association (EFTA). They import about \$20 billion of Community products a year, double the level about 10 years ago.

They also remain a major oil supplier, although their share of the Community's oil market has been declining steadily with the rising importance of North Sea oil and other energy sources.

The value of Gulf exports to the Community, virtually all in crude oil and oil products, declined to \$14 billion last year from about \$35 billion in 1980.

The diplomats said the Community, which initiated contacts for a cooperation agreement in 1980, felt the Gulf states no longer carried the same political weight they did five years ago but remained an important trade partner.

The impetus for the talks was now economic, they added.

They were aimed at establishing orderly economic relations and a framework for resolving possible disputes. The Community was no longer looking at the Gulf primarily in strategic terms to help resolve the Arab-Israeli dispute and maintain oil flows in the West.

They added. Tensions over petrochemicals rose when the Community told Saudi Arabia last year that some exports had far exceeded the tariff-free ceiling under international agreements and would be liable to import duty, leading to Saudi threats of retaliation.

Community officials said Saudi Arabia was by far the largest Gulf petrochemicals exporter and action had to be taken to protect the bloc's ailing petrochemicals industry against the cheaper Gulf products.

Kuwait was exporting similar products. Bahrain was starting to do the same and the United Arab Emirates was due to start next year.

They said Gulf exporters did not appear to appreciate that the Community was obliged to act under existing GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) rules if a complaint was received from Community producers.

Saudi Arabia, which alone has invested more than \$10 billion in huge petrochemicals complexes, says the threat from Saudi exports is not as great as claimed in the Community.

It has pointed out that most Community goods enjoy tariff-free access to Saudi Arabia and the other Gulf states.

Mitterrand to back Third World debtors

BRASILIA (R) — President Francois Mitterrand, making a South American tour, will renew his call for change in the world monetary system and condemn demands made by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on developing nations, French officials said.

Mr. Mitterrand begins his tour Monday in Brazil, where he will spend four days before flying on to Colombia.

France considers that Latin American nations, saddled with a \$360 billion foreign debt, should not be forced to repay their debts at the cost of poverty and stalled economic development. French diplomats here said.

"Mitterrand will insist on the identity of views between Brazil and France on the external debt issue but will resist President Jose Sarney's attempts to lead him into an anti-IMF crusade," one diplomat said.

The French leader is also likely to praise Brazil's political maturity following the transition to civilian rule rocked by the death in April of president-elect Tancred Neves.

"This visit is significant because it happens at a key moment. Brazil has abandoned the grandiose projects of the 1970s and in today's financially-strapped environment is seeking more joint ventures," a French diplomat said.

Trade between the two countries totalled \$1.2 billion last year with France suffering a deficit of \$465 million. Soyabean and coffee accounted for more than 60 per cent of its imports.

Commercial gold finds reported in S. Yemen

ABU DHABI (AP) — South Yemen has announced the discovery of commercial quantities of gold in its Hadramaut province, the Abu Dhabi-based newspaper Al Itihad reported Sunday.

The report from Aden said a Soviet company had been prospecting for the mineral for years and that commercial extraction would start in 1988, the papers said in its report from Aden.

Marxist-ruled South Yemen, located at the southern tip of the Arabian peninsula, is one of the closest friends of the Soviet Union in the Arab World.

South Yemen will start to build mines for extraction purposes, and the country's ministry of energy and minerals will study whether the prospecting area can be enlarged "in view of encouraging factors indicated while evaluating reserves," the report said.

In recent years, the country started wide-scale exploration for hydrocarbons, including oil.

Aside from the Soviet Technoexport firm, oil prospecting concessions are operated by the Italian Agip and the Brazilian company Petrobras.

France's Elf Aquitaine also recently took a 35 per cent interest in a concession tract held by Kuwait's independent petroleum group.

Agip however had a promising oil strike in its Hadramaut concession in 1982, and is in the process of drilling development wells.

THE BETTER HALF By Harris

"We've never actually used our food processor. We bought it because it looks so cool on the counter!"

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GOONY
ODITI
REDDEG
LADVAN

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: THE GO TO

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GIANT AUGUR FORKED SNITCH
Answer: What they called the star of the monster show — A STAGE "FRIGHT"

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, OCT. 14, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning gives you the chance to see, during spare time, the persons you most enjoy, as well as to make progress at work of an artistic nature.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You can easily get an associate to follow your ideas during the day, but tonight plan something with a co-worker and get much done.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can now handle easily whatever tasks have been difficult in the past. Support a co-worker who is nervous.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Carry through with some creative work during the daytime, but tonight plan a better course of action for the future.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Make your home charming during the day and in the evening do whatever it is that you enjoy the most.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 23) Get into activities that can bring you greater happiness and beauty in the outside world. Take a friend to dinner.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 to Sept. 22) Do whatever will add to the value of property and possessions, and later handle your correspondence wisely.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get in touch with persons who can be helpful in your personal affairs during the day. Get your appearance improved.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Begin the new week by contacting those who have good ideas for your advancement and then work out a nice plan.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You are able to gain a desired wish quite easily if you go after it in a positive way. Be very romantic tonight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Plan how to gain the backing of a bigwig for some pet project you have in mind. Have fun with your friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Extending activities considerably is wise at this time so that you can become more successful. Double-check your plans.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Start the new week by getting a bigwig to give you the backing you need for a new interest. Be more broad-minded.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be a joy to everyone because of the sweet nature and charming personality. Slant the education along lines of entertainment or public life. One who can be most successful since the mind is very active.

THE Daily Crossword by Avery P. Bromfield

ACROSS

1. Club

5. Bet

10. Humid

14. Coin of Persia

15. Old unit of length

16. Inter

17. Threatened

18. Land mammal

20. Urge

21. "As You Like It" forest

22. Arm bones

23. Bradley

24. "Do — say, not —"

25. Endangered ocean mammals

32. Wolf sheath

33. Sick

34. Tree

35. Undo

36. Ties

38. Signal

39. Horn being

40. Atmospheric gas

41. Count of music

42. Endangered aquatic reptiles

46. Cotton —

47. Jog

48. Ornament

51. Hubbed

53. Fuse

56. Endangered Amer. bird

58. Faction

60. Indolent

61. It row

62. Epochs

63. Boastful

64. Endangered grizzly —

DOWN

1. Endangered whale

2. Antidote

3. Well

4. Yale student

5. Student

6. Arctic plain

7. Busy as —

8. Oven

9. Summer fr.

10. Flower

11. Halo or Laid

12. 1482 vessel

13. "Vive le —"

14. Settles down

15. Aggressive

16. August

17. Shoemakers' tools

18. Beautiful maiden

19. Archangel

20. Tapering in

21. Way

22. Youngster

23. Fast

24. — Presley

25. Pintail duck

26. Camel

27. Swiss city

28. Sp. gold

29. — Disney

30. Serving

31. — curiously

32. —

33. Flaps and

34. Horace

35. Get mammoth

36. You sky

37. Church part

38. Hand

39. Like whale

40. First name in three

41. Simple

42. 48,500 sq. ft.

43. Lady

44. — about (ap-)

45. — (unusually)

46. Duff

47. Testing milieu

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS

1. PAIL

2. PAIL

3. PAIL

4. PAIL

5. PAIL

6. PAIL

7. PAIL

8. PAIL

9. PAIL

10. PAIL

11. PAIL

12. PAIL

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94. PAIL

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96. PAIL

97. PAIL

98. PAIL

99. PAIL

100. PAIL

Peanuts

I HATE WAITING FOR SUPPER...

SOMETIMES IF YOU PRETEND YOU DON'T REALLY CARE, SUPPER COMES FASTER...

IT'S NEVER WORKED YET

Mutt 'n' Jeff

MUTT, IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO ME I SUPPOSE YOU'D MARRY AGAIN!

M'LOVE, YOU ONLY HAVE A COLD!

I HATE TO THINK OF ANOTHER WOMAN USING ALL MY LOVELY THINGS

WHY? IT WOULD BE FOOLISH TO THROW AWAY ALL THIS STUFF AND REFURNISH THE HOUSE WITH PRICES AS HIGH AS THEY ARE!

Andy Capp

I'M OFF FOR A QUICK COUPLE OFF-FOAMIES, PET...

FEEL A BIT MORE SETTLED?

YES, PET

I DO MY BIT, BHP

YEP, YOU'RE GREAT HELP

HE HAPPENED TO BE AWAKE DURING A COMMERCIAL AND PUT ME ON TO A NEW STOMACH FINDER

Belgians vote amid tight security after bomb threats

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgians Sunday voted in the country's 14th general election since World War II amid unprecedented security after three bomb blasts in five days.

Seven million voters gave their verdict on the longest-running government for 20 years, a centre-right coalition of Social Christians and Liberals under Prime Minister Wilfried Martens that has almost completed a four-year term.

"I don't think it will change much," was the most common comment by voters interviewed by National Radio at polling booths Sunday after a lacklustre election campaign.

The four-party coalition composed of parties from both sides of the country's internal linguistic divide said it had restored confidence in the economy and was seeking a mandate for further restraint.

Last opinion polls showed the opposition Socialists gaining, but a large number of undecided voters still remained. Some 500,000 young people voting for the first time could play a crucial role.

Some 30,000 members of the security services were placed on alert across the country to prevent the Fighting Communist Cells (CCC) urban guerrilla group disrupting the polls. The measures

were the tightest ever laid on for elections.

The CCC, which broke a five-month silence with a powerful car bomb explosion in Brussels on Tuesday, set off two bombs in the southern industrial town of Charleroi early Saturday.

The far-left group urged people to boycott the election as a bourgeois fraud and vowed to strike again.

But no serious incident had been reported by the time polls closed at 1 p.m. Voting is compulsory and voters in their Sunday best flocked to the polling booths on a day of unseasonal warmth and sunshine.

The coalition, the fifth in which Mr. Martens has been prime minister, held 113 seats out of 212 in the outgoing Chamber of Deputies.

However, even if it keeps its authority, negotiations on terms for keeping the coalition together could prove difficult.

The Flemish and Walloon Christian Democratic parties, both members of the coalition, are at odds over whether control of education should be handed over

to the regions.

The coalition had originally intended to see out its term and call elections in December. The poll was brought forward following a dispute over whether the interior minister should resign over his handling of a riot at the European Cup soccer final in Brussels last May when 39 people were killed.

Voting is mandatory for Belgians who risk minor fines for failing to cast their ballots. Repeat offenders lose their right to vote.

In the last elections Mr. Martens' own Dutch-speaking Christian Democrats and his French-speaking Christian Democratic allies lost 14 and seven seats respectively.

But with the help of the Conservatives who won six seats in Dutch-speaking Flanders and nine in French-speaking Wallonia, Mr. Martens formed a centre-right coalition holding 113 seats in parliament.

All parties, except the Communists — who hold two seats in parliament — are split into Dutch and French-speaking camps.

Mr. Martens, a 49-year-old lawyer from Ghent, has campaigned under the slogan of "no return" to the days of the late 1970s when Belgium had to borrow heavily to pay its debts.



Yasuhiro Nakasone

Japan calls for talks on formal peace with Soviets

MOSCOW (R) — Japan's ambassador in Moscow has handed Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze a letter from Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone calling for talks on a formal peace treaty, a Japanese spokesman said Sunday.

Ambassador Yasue Karori met Mr. Shevardnadze Saturday to hand over the message, the spokesman said. The call to resume talks on a treaty was made as part of a proposal to restart exchanges of visits by foreign ministers, he added.

A treaty formally ending World War II hostilities has been held up mainly because of a dispute over islands in the Kurile chain occupied since 1945 by the Soviet Union.

The issue has dogged efforts to improve relations between the two countries. Japan is demanding the islands be returned. While Moscow says there is no issue to discuss.

Tokyo and Moscow re-established diplomatic relations in 1956 and in 1973 the late Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev agreed with Tokyo to start talks on a peace treaty.

These never got off the ground because Moscow said the issue of Japan's "northern territories" did not exist while Tokyo insisted its solution was central to any pact.

Mr. Nakasone's letter follows conciliatory moves by Moscow since Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev assumed office in March.

These have included high-level visits to Tokyo, a meeting between the countries' foreign ministers in New York and a letter in September from Mr. Gorbachev to Mr. Nakasone calling for closer ties and the staging of an Asian security conference.

Mr. Shevardnadze is due to pay a visit to Tokyo in December, though officials said no date had been fixed.

Solidarity activists summoned as Poles vote in general elections

WARSAW (R) — Police summoned Warsaw Solidarity activists Zbigniew Romaszewski and Jacek Kuron for questioning Sunday as voting began in Polish general elections which the banned free trade union has urged electors to boycott.

Both men were also interrogated Saturday. Romaszewski said he was warned not to talk to Western correspondents after he reported attacks on political prisoners by warders at Leczyca Prison in central Poland.

The disclosure that nine prisoners including Wladyslaw Frasyniuk, a member of Solidarity's leadership, were beaten in several incidents embarrassed the Communist authorities in the pre-election period.

The elections are the first for parliament since shortly before the Solidarity labour upheaval in 1980. The official press said they were intended to produce "a parliament of reconciliation and national rebirth."

They have been preceded, however, by a crackdown on Solidarity

supporters including a wave of detentions.

Opposition sources said at least 28 people were detained since Wednesday in the Baltic ports of Gdansk and Gdynia and arrests were also reported in Wroclaw, Szczecin and Warsaw.

Janusz Onyszkiewicz and Jacek Kuron, two other senior Solidarity activists also questioned in the capital Saturday, were later released.

Government Spokesman Jerzy Urban, who said he was confident the boycott appeal would fail, declined to reveal the number of arrests around the country until after the elections.

One of the men questioned in the capital, former Solidarity Spokesman Janusz Onyszkiewicz, told reporters that police warned him not to speak to Western correspondents.

The government is hoping for a turnout of about 80 per cent while Solidarity said it hoped 40 per cent of the electorate of more than 25 million would heed the boycott.

Contests are taking place in 410 constituencies and 50 other seats are being filled by co-opted candidates including Communist leader Wojciech Jaruzelski. All candidates have been picked by Prom, a Communist front organisation.

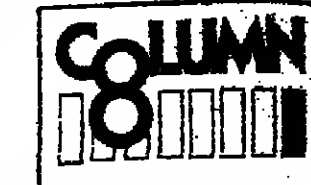
Voting was due to start at 6 a.m. (0500 GMT) and continue until 10 p.m. (2100 GMT) with full results not expected until Tuesday.

Solidarity claims to have developed a foolproof method of monitoring the true turnout. But Urban said it had been tested by government experts who claimed that it would lead to a 10 to 50 per cent margin of error.

He said voting was not obligatory but he refused to promise that non-voters did not risk reprisals at work or when they apply for social benefits.

Shops have been unusually well stocked with foods which are often in short supply during the pre-election period.

Security has been strengthened in big cities and the sale of alcohol banned over the weekend.



TWA jet tires burst on landing

LONDON (AP) — A TWA Jumbo jet arriving from New York blocked a runway for three hours at London's Heathrow Airport Sunday after two tires burst on landing, the airport said. The passengers disembarked on the runway and there were no injuries, but the Boeing 747 went slightly off course, smashing about 40 indicator lights on the tarmac, said Barry Buttenshaw, a British airports authority spokesman. The runway, one of three at Heathrow, was blocked for about three hours while the plane was removed and the lights replaced, he said.

Herbalists say they can cure AIDS

LAGOS (R) — Traditional medical practitioners in Nigeria say they can cure the deadly disease AIDS. Lagos Radio has reported. It quoted the president of the Nigerian Association of Traditional Medical Practitioners (NATMP), chief J.O. Lambo, as saying AIDS was a combination of numerous diseases and there was nothing strange about it. The radio did not say whether Nigerian herbalists have treated any AIDS cases. AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), which was first diagnosed in the United States, destroys the body's ability to fight infections. There is no known cure for the disease which has killed more than 6,500 people in the United States alone.

Singapore launches matchmaking hotline

SINGAPORE (R) — More than 1,000 young Singaporeans seeking marriage partners have rushed to call a matchmaking hotline since the government launched it Saturday, officials said. The Social Development Unit (SDU) set up two years ago to play cupid for university graduates and professionals, said Sunday it would also cater to young people with high school education. SDU officials said the hotline was aimed at the growing number of young people opting to remain single or having difficulty finding life partners. The SDU was set up after Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew said Singapore must reverse its birth pattern in which less educated women had twice as many babies as graduate women. The SDU made clear that the new hotline did not mean it was abandoning its original policy, criticised by opposition politicians and some government members as elitist engineering and promoting socialism.

Tenor to quit opera to help quake victims

LONDON (R) — Opera singer Placido Domingo, who lost four relatives in Mexico's massive earthquake last month, has announced plans to cancel all scheduled appearances for the next year to raise funds for survivors of the disaster. The Spanish-born tenor, who emigrated to Mexico as a child, said he hoped to raise more than \$8 million through concerts in large arenas to help rescue some 200 families who lived in a block that collapsed in the quake, killing his uncle's family. "I am asking every theatre in the world to give me one year's leave of absence, starting immediately," Domingo said in an interview with the Sunday Times newspaper. Domingo, one of the world's most acclaimed tenors, was due to start rehearsing the title role in Verdi's Otello in London next month.

Possible Chagall painting found

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A police officer rummaging through unclaimed goods found a water-colour painting that may have been painted by Marc Chagall, the late Russian-born painter. "I looked at it out of curiosity, and saw it was signed by Marc Chagall," said Lt. Mike Pera. "It looks like something a kid did in the second grade. Except that a second-grader would probably do it better." The simple line drawing over a wash of light blues and greens shows a peaked-roof house with a woman on the right and a man sitting on the chimney with a rooster on his head. After Thursday's discovery, the police called in art experts to determine its authenticity. If genuine, the painting could be worth \$20,000, according to one dealer consulted by police. Police plan to auction the work.

China, N. Korea deny entry to Kozo Okamoto

TOKYO (R) — China and North Korea have denied entry to a member of the Japanese Red Army guerrilla group freed in an Israeli-Palestinian prisoner exchange last May. North Korean sources in Tokyo were quoted as saying Sunday.

Japan's Kyodo News Service quoted the sources as saying Kozo Okamoto, sole survivor of three Japanese Red Army members who killed 26 people in an attack at Tel Aviv's Lod Airport in 1972, was with other members of the

group in Lebanon.

The Japanese guerrilla group had asked China to accept Okamoto for treatment of his mental illness but was turned down, the sources were quoted as saying.

North Korea, which has harboured Japanese Red Army members, including Okamoto's elder brother, also turned down Okamoto's plea to enter, the sources were quoted as saying.

No reason for the rejection was given.

Mexico orders takeover of quake lands

MEXICO CITY (Agencies) — The Mexican government has ordered the takeover of 7,000 plots of private property in parts of the capital damaged by last month's earthquake which killed about 7,000 people.

The order affecting 250 hectares (600 acres) of land in four downtown, mainly working-class districts was announced in the government gazette.

Mexico City Mayor Ramon Aguirre said the takeover would benefit some 180,000 victims of the twin earthquakes which hit the city on Sept. 19 and 20.

The decree said owners of the affected real estate would be compensated over a 10-year period by the city government. It did not say how the land would be valued for compensation.

Plots will be used to build or repair 7,000 buildings, to be sold on easy terms giving preference to their present occupants, the decree said.

French Socialists agree on election strategy

TOULOUSE, France (R) — France's ruling Socialist Party Sunday agreed a compromise strategy for next year's parliamentary elections after all-night negotiations between rival factions.

The agreement between the majority, led by First Secretary Lionel Jospin, and the minority led by former Agriculture Minister Michel Rocard, came at 6 a.m. on the final day of a party congress.

Mr. Jospin said the haggling over a final resolution had been "not hard, just long" and supporters of Mr. Rocard said it was a good agreement.

The final resolution was expected to rule out any coalition with the right if the Socialists lose control of the National Assembly in the vote next March.

Education Minister Jean-Pierre Chevènement Saturday told the three-day congress, which ended: "No right-wing party wants an alliance with us. Why should we fix conditions? We don't have any suitors."

Mr. Chevènement, an influential figure in the party, said the real disagreements in the party were not over the 1986 elections but about 1988 — the year of the next presidential election.

Clearly addressing himself to former Agriculture Minister Michel Rocard, who has said he will run for president, Mr. Chevènement said: "The succession to Francois Mitterrand is not open. Any premature campaign risks undermining the left's principal piece on the chessboard between now and 1988."

He warned Mr. Rocard, who has threatened to stand even if the Socialists do not nominate him, that the entire party would be obliged to support the official candidate.

Mr. Rocard, who has the support of nearly 30 per cent of congress delegates, is France's most popular politician.

He received a mixed reception from the congress on Friday and was decisively upstaged Saturday by his major rival for the post-

Mitterrand era, Prime Minister Laurent Fabius.

Mr. Fabius abandoned his usual moderation for a stinging attack on the right-wing opposition and earned himself a standing ovation.

His welcome suggested his popularity in the party had been unaffected by criticism of his handling of the affair of the Rainbow Warrior, the Greenpeace ship sunk by French secret agents in New Zealand.

He poured scorn on the opposition leaders as a "gallery of ghosts" and signalled he would be taking the offensive in the Socialist election campaign.

He also took a swipe at Mr. Rocard's personal ambitions by reminding him of the need to pull his weight in the campaign.

Mr. Rocard supporters said their chief was being subjected to a "trial by suspicion" by leaders of the majority faction, which includes former Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy, Mr. Chevènement and Mr. Jospin.

Greenpeace heads for confrontation

PAPEETE, Tahiti (R) — The anti-nuclear protest ship Greenpeace was heading for Tahiti Sunday for emergency repairs, despite a ban on its landing at the island swiftly imposed by the French Polynesian authorities.

The 60-metre ocean-going tug first signalled the breakdown of its generator on Thursday night while leading a protest flotilla off France's nuclear test site in the South Pacific.

French warships shadowing Greenpeace reported that it left the area around the nuclear base at Mururoa atoll and was heading for Tahiti 780 miles to the west.

Gaston Floss, president of the Polynesian territorial government, swiftly banned it from entering Tahitian ports.

Official sources said the decree had been made in consultation with French High Commissioner Bernard Gerard.

French Navy officers said Greenpeace skipper Jonathan Castle

had been informed by radio of the ban but that he was continuing towards Tahiti.

He was last reported at 0300 GMT Sunday about 90 miles west of Mururoa, making 11 knots under backup power which would bring him to Tahiti on Tuesday morning.

The Guernsey-boro Castle already faces an expulsion order issued by the Polynesian authorities following a similar protest campaign in 1982 so he may be ordered out immediately.

The Greenpeace was being accompanied by the largest of the three yachts in the flotilla, the 20-metre Breeze, which had already signalled its intention to quit the protest.

The other yachts the Vega and the Alliance were last reported stationary some 60 miles west of Mururoa.

The latest unforeseen move by the sea-faring ecologists followed a week of confrontation with

French warships.

Castle sailed close to a forbidden zone around the secret nuclear base, and to his French escorts, prompting sharp reminders from their captains about the dangers of collision.

Earlier Sunday Admiral Rene Hugues, commander of the French Pacific Fleet, told reporters at Mururoa that he was personally delighted by Greenpeace's departure from the area.

"Our forces will remain on patrol. The contest has halted provisionally due to the absence of a combatant but it may resume... I don't think one can say it's a first-round victory."

Whatever happens, Castle is unlikely to have the opportunity to put his case to France's newly appointed Defence Minister Paul Juiles who is due to visit Mururoa later this month to be present at a new series of underground explosions. French officials are keeping the test schedule secret.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARAF
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HOPE FOR THE BEST

East-West vulnerable. North deals.			
NORTH			
AK 103			
A 7			
A 1085			
1084			
WEST			
Q 76			
K J 10852			
Q 72			
K 3			
EAST			
1852			
Q 33			
K 64			
Q 193			
A Q 39			
SOUTH			
34			
Q 64			
Q 193			
A Q 39			
The bidding:			
North	East	South	West
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: Jack of ♠.			

Sometimes your contract depends purely on technique. At other times you will need a slice of luck as well.

This department disagrees with North's choice of opening bid. Whether North-South play four or five-card majors, the correct opening bid with his hand is one diamond — the suit below the short suit. But that is purely academic, since North-South reached an excellent contract played from the right side.

Correct technique is to cross to the table at trick two with a spade and run the ten of clubs. If the finesse succeeds, go after diamonds immediately and assure nine tricks — don't repeat the finesse in case West is holding up the king of clubs. If the club finesse loses, win the heart return, come back to hand with a club and try the diamond finesse. If that loses, your one last chance is that hearts are 8-2. Since that is the way the cards lie, you bring home the contract even though both finesses fail.

Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.